

THE INDEPENDENT

TUESDAY 19 AUGUST 1997

NEWS PAGE 3 TRAMS, BIKES

- AND NO
AUTOMOBILES



INSIDE THE TABLOID NETWORK+ THE ULTIMATE ACTS



IN THE TABLOID THE HOTTEST THE SHELF

The miner: a step closer to extinction

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

The long-term prospects for Britain's surviving coal mines were thrown into doubt yesterday when the largest producer, RJB Mining, announced plans to shut the country's newest

and most advanced "super-pit".

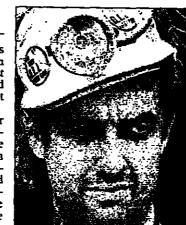
The company, which took over most of British Coal's pits at privatisation three years ago, blamed the decision to close Asfordby mine in north Leicestershire on serious geological problems. But unions and coal experts disputed the claim, insisting the closure was likely to be the first in a series of shutdowns as the demand for coal continued to fall.

The closure last night thrust Labour's energy policy into the spot-light, as John Battle, industry min-ister. spoke of his "great disappointment" at the news. Mr Battle insisted the industry had a "viable future" and stressed the government's commitment Of developing "clean coal" technology for power stations.

But Labour was also accused of adding to the industry's woes by encouraging greater competition in the electricity industry from next year. switch to burning cheaper and cleaner natural gas.

Asfordby's demise has highlighted the problems for RJB, when contracts to supply coal to the privatised power generators expire next April. National Power and PowerGen buy almost 30 million tonnes of coal a year from RJB at well above the market price. So far only three million tonnes of supply have been secured for next year.

The amount of electricity generated by coal has fallen dramatically since the onset of gas-fired generating stations in the so-called dash for gas.



Dim outlook: Darren Haywood leaving Asfordby pit after his shift

Pit falls 1947: Nationalisation of coal industry

718,000 miners 958 pits 1974: Miners' strike - 3-day week 242,000 miners 259 pits 1979: Conservatives elected 235,000 miners 223 pits 1984: Start of year-long strike 191,000 miners 170 pits 1986: After strike 1994: Privatisation of British Coal

9,000 miners

came from gas, while two-thirds came from coal. Last year gas accounted for 20 per cent of power and coal for just 40 per cent.

16 pits

Asfordby was originally meant to be one of three pits built in the area, of which only one was allowed after a prolonged public inquiry. British Coal had invested £320m in the project since 1984, hoping to find 25 years' worth of reserves. RJB ploughed a further £60m into the pit, much of it spent in trying to solve the In 1991 none of the UK's power geological problems.

The two 500-metre shafts will be filled in and sealed by the end of the year, after which time RJB is expected to offer the land for sale. Humdreds of metres of underground roadways, lined with concrete like the Channel Tunnel, will remain empty.

Gordon McPhie, RJB's finance di-rector, said the difficulties were unique to the pit and could not be solved. "People who suggest other-wise are totally wrong. The risk is that if we continue we might kill somebody. This is about killing people.' RJB had suffered a series of set-

backs with its state-of-the-art technology since production began in April 1995. Beds of volcanic rock put the coal seam under such severe pressure that machinery was being damaged. To complicate matters further, water was gushing into the mine workings through faults in the rock. Production was finally abandoned last week.

But Neil Greatrex, president of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers, said RJB had moved production to a smaller coal face, where it was mining coal at a small profit, a fact admitted by the company yesterday.

Mr Greatrex urged Labour to come to the industry's aid. "The as we helped them get where they are. I have challenged Tony Blair and John Prescott to come here and put things right, but I think if nothing is done then by 2005 the coal industry in Britain will be finished."

RJB said it had offered to find alternative work at its other pits for Asfordby's 490 employees. Miners were given confirmation of the decision at a mass meeting at the pit yesterday morning.
One miner, Robert Hubery, said:

"I'm just devastated. I've been in the business 26 years and really don't think there is any future in mining



Claws to the fore: John Prescott studies a Chinese Mitten Crab which, any resemblance to Government ministers apart, will benefit from

Sideways on, you're such a softy

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday let slip the uncomradely thoughts he harbours for his Cabinet colleague Peter Mandelson when he compared the Minister without Portfolio to a crab.

Whatever the similarities between Mr Mandelson and a crustacean with fiercesome claws that approaches its prey sideways on, the unguarded observation provoked a flurry of "clarifications from Downing Street and

totally overshadowed the Deputy Prime Minister's original errand.

Mr Prescott had gone to the Millennium exhibition site to announce the creation of a wildlife-friendly flood defence scheme for the Thames. But then he christened the photocall crab 'Peter' and asked it: Do you think you'll get on the Executive Peter?

Mr Mandelson is bidding for election to Labour's ruling National Executive Committee and Mr Prescott hardly sounded to be wishing him well. The jibe was seized on by reporters as further evidence of be built in Germany. Mr Prescott uptension between the two men over Mr Mandelson's high-profile role while Tony Blair has been on holiday.

Later attempts by Mr Prescott to

"clear up any misunderstanding" were heavier on puns than sincerity. "I wish Peter Mandelson all the best in his attempt to claw his way on to the NEC. I hope that his pincer move goes well because under his hard shell he has a soft heart."

The two colleagues were also at odds over the disclosure that a key part of the Millennium Dome is to

set builders by saying the award of a £6m contract to Koch Konstruktive Membrane of Munich was "a sad reflection on the competence of the [British] industry".

But Mr Mandelson, the minister

in charge of the Dome project, said it was a "success story" for British in-dustry. "I am not disappointed really ... because overwhelmingly the huge bulk of work and the value of what we are doing at Greenwich is being taken up by British companies, "he told BBC Radio WM.

Lives ruined by animal terrorists

Alexandra Williams

tgage

ites?

that.

OGO TO

The wife of a leading neuroscientist spoke yesterday of her family's life under siege by antivivisection groups after a renewed campaign of terror began against them. As Professor Colin Blake-

more takes up the presidency of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, his wife. Andree, revealed to The Independent the constant stress of living with the protesters' threats.
"For 25 years we've been a

top target. It gets unbearable. It would be easy to die of a ner-yous breakdown if we kept looking over our shoulders. On the day you receive a letter bomb or your property is vandalised you feel strong and think you'll be OK. But today I feel very upset," she said.

At 3am on Saturday, paintstripper was thrown over a car parked in the family's dri-versity, began in 1986 when he

the inspections watchdog which

well-written so that they can be



Colin and Andrée Blake Photograph: David Rose

ve and the tyres were stabbed. Their 10-year-old cat was burned by the substance after lying on the car.

The demonisation of Profes-

sor Blakemore, of Oxford Uni-

did research that involved sewing shut the cyclids of anaesthetised kittens. The research helped medical understanding of amblyopia - the commonest form of child blindness.

During the past 10 years, the windows of his Oxfordshire house have been smashed. Mrs. Blakemore has been threatened with death and the couple's three children with kidnap. A mailing tube filled with half a pound of explosives and sharp needles was sent to his home by an organisation called the Justice Department in December 1993. And last April, 400 campaigners demonstrated outside his house.

Two years ago Professor Blakemore, 53, formed a thinktank with Les Ward, the director of Advocates for Animals, an Edinburgh charity, to bring the two sides together for constructive debate. Although their Boyd Group has always ex-cluded the Animal Liberation Front and the violent minority, Professor Blakemore said that he would now be prepared to consider granting them a place at the negotiating table.

"The Boyd Group is an arena for general dialogue. I want progression even if it means including the violent groups - but only so long as we do not lose the peaceful groups," he said. Mrs Blakemore, 52, contact-

ed The Independent "in the hope that the public and legitimate animal rights groups will express their revulsion at such gratuitous infliction of suffering on innocent human beings and now on an animal".

Professor Blakemore said: "Our cat Sharon was very distressed. She had obviously been on the bonnet and had burnt her paws and face. I would never be granted a licence to apply paintstripper to a cat's face and paws without anaesthetic

Robin Webb, a spokesman for the ALF, said it looked like the work of the organisation. "It sounds like the ALF," he said. "I do not believe Professor Blakemore about his cat being hurt. It's the kind of emotive thing he'd try and claim. I find his concern hypocritical. He has a history of stitching up eye-

lids of moneys and kittens.
"He has written saying he wants to meet me. But a private informal meeting would not get anywhere. There needs to

be broader representation."
Professor Blakemore estimates his department uses six monkeys and 12 cats a year. "I have been forced to consider and reconsider the basis of my moral position as a scientist Every day a scientist should think about it and never be lackadaisical. I want, just as much as the ALF, to stop using animals but it's just a question of

I'M GOING TO

OUCKLY. Greenpeace sued

British Petroleum has begun legal proceedings for damages of £1.4m against the environmental pressure group Greenpeace and four of its members over its occupation of the Stenna Dee oil installation off the Shetland

Child fathers baby A boy of 11 who made his girlfriend pregnant was in hiding

with his mother. The girl, 15, said she would keep the baby.

Australian cringe Australian officials were trying to defuse an embarrassing row after a secret government document disparaged neighbouring political leaders. Page 8

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Inspectors sent to the bottom of the class understood by schools and paromission, misplacement and are underachieving in many ents. A review by Ofsted, which Judith Judd superabundance." Education Editor looked at 400 reports complet-They are accused of bad gramin many reports, judgements ed during the summer and au-HONE LAT.

I'M IN

DETENTION, School inspectors, who spend tumn terms last year, says that

their days telling teachers that they could do better, are themschool inspection reports is not selves given poor marks in an unpublished report seen by The up to scratch and few are good throughout. One in seven has very good features. Independent.
The report, from the Office Grammatical errors occur in for Standards in Education,

awarded the same inspectors verb and its subject. their contracts, says their reports The apostrophe, downfall of are vague and woolly, and use many pupils, also catches out sloppy grammar and punctua-Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, has said repeatedly that reports must be

the writing of one in seven satisfactory or better."

Inspectors are accused of inmany: the most common is the lack of agreement between a

the inspectors, for example: Childrens' "Punctuation is generally accurate but there are reports in which the use of the apostrophe is erratic, with is not up to standard and pupils

mar: "Attainment and progress is good"; truisms: "When teaching is good, pupils are challenged": jargon; "Continuity and progression"; vagueness: "Teaching is usually

consistency. Reports tend to start off by painting "an unduly rosy picture of a school" but then they change their tune. One begins by noting that

"teaching promotes sound ed-ucational standards" yet the same report reveals that progress in one-third of lessons

are vague. "Skills in spelling and writing are less well devel-oped." Less well developed than what?, asks the watchdog's report. And what do terms such as "some", "variable", "uneven" or "mixed" mean when they are used without explana-Doug McAvoy, general sec-

retary of the National Union of Teachers, said that the inconsistency between and across reports had been one of teachers' concerns. "Ofsted must put in place quality control for its own inspection judgements." Leading article, page 13

significant shorts

Sculptor appears in court on human body-parts charge

A sculptor who teaches at the Prince of Wales Institute of Architecture appeared in court yesterday charged with stealing human body parts for use in his sculptures.

Anthony-Noel Kelly, 41. a cousin of the Duke of Norfolk, was remanded on unconditional bail at Horseferry Road magistrates' court. He has been charged under the 1994 Anatomy Act, which prohibits the use of body parts for anything other than medical research and orders that parts must be given a proper burial after three years. Mr Kelly, from Brixton, south London, was arrested in April following raids by police on addresses in West London and Kent. He did not speak during the five-minute hearing.

Neil Lindsay, 24, from South London, faces a similar charge.

Both men have been bailed to return before magistrates on

Loyalists end prison-officer attacks

A loyalist terrorist group has ordered its members to end attacks on prison officers' homes in connection with protests at the Maze jail. The ultra hardline Loyalist Volunteer Force called for mediation to resolve the dispute at the top security prison. LVF inmates caused an estimated £250,000 damage last Wednesday when they went on the rampage, demanding equal rights to other prisoners. Several gum and petrol bomb attacks were also launched on the homes of serving and retired prison officers.

But in a statement using a recognised codeword yesterday, the LVF said: "The ruling army council has ordered its units not to attack prison officers' homes in order to let mediation take place about the crisis in the jail."

Wounded student home from Israel



A student injured in a shooting in Israel in which her boyfriend was killed arrived home vesterdav.

Charlotte Gibb, 20, was gunned down alongside her partner, Max Hunter, 22, as they took a cigarette break on a trip from the southern beach resort of Eilat to a tourist spot in the Negev desert last week. Miss Gibb was treated for

fractures in her left arm, right hand and a gunshot wound in the cheek. After flying back to Britain she was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.

Mr Hunter, a law graduate from Banstead, Surrey, was buried at the Jewish cemetery in Brighton last Friday. The couple, both students from Durham University, had been in the country for less than a week when they were shot in what was apparently a motiveless attack on Wednesday. They were planning to spend six weeks working on a kibbutz and travelling in Israel.

Miss Gibb, from Deeping St James, Lincolnshire, told Israel radio from her hospital bed in the town of Beer Sheva that it was "a miracle" she had survived the attack. An Israeli military patrol saved her life after spotting her lying beside the body of her boyfriend minutes after they were shot.

Boy dies in mini-motorbike accident

A 12-year-old boy died yesterday in what police believe was a tragic accident on his small-scale motorbike.

Christopher Molyneux was found near his home on the Loseley Park estate, in Guildford, Surrey, at about 8.30am. A police spokeswoman said: "A post mortem examination is due to take place ... Police are investigating the death, but it appears it was the result of a tragic accident.

Rare birds shot, and nailed to fence

another blow with two more illegal killings.

The latest cases involve a peregrine falcon, which was found shot dead in the Cheviot Hills, Northumberland, and an osprey which was nailed to a fence in the Belford area of the county. The peregrine was found by a walker in the hills; tests confirmed it had been killed with a shotgun. An investigation has failed to discover who killed the bird but the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, and the Northumbria police are highlighting the case to draw attention to the problem. Police have also been investigating the death of the osprey. Both species are protected by special penalties – those who kill or injure the birds can face fines of up to £5,000.

Security guard success on trains

A pilot scheme to use private security guards to protect rail passengers on a busy commuter line has proved so successful that it may be extended, it was revealed yesterday. The guards are being used on Connex South Eastern's North Kent line - scene of a serious robbery earlier this year.

Banks that say 'yes' to anything

People are turning to their bank managers for help boosting their

looks and their sex lives, according to a new report.

Recent requests for cash loans made to banks have included applications for money to have cosmetic surgery such as tummy tucks and tattoo removal, and even a sex-change operation. One customer wanted cash to buy a family graveyard, and another wanted £20,000 to improve his front drive. Asked why it would cost so much, the customer admitted that only £2,000 of the loan was for the new drive and the rest was for a Porsche to put on it. The survey of loan requests, by Yorkshire Bank, showed that banks and other lenders are becoming more ready to help people realise their dreams.

Glowing performance at the ballet

Sixty English National Ballet dancers have been banned from sunbathing after returning from holiday with glowing pink faces. Derek Deane, the ballet's artistic director, was dismayed when members of the corps de ballet returned from their summer break with faces glowing with "every shade of red and pink". He has ordered them to become a natural white, and to stay out of the sun, for the company's new production of Swan Lake. The dancers have six weeks to lose their summer colour before the classic ballet opens at the Apollo theatre in Oxford on 30 September. "We simply can't give roasted swans to the public." Deane said.

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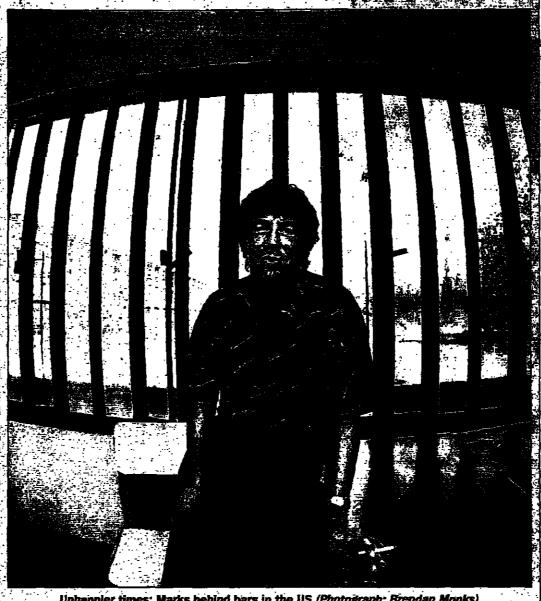
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Unhappler times: Marks behind bars in the US (Photograph: Brendan Monks)

Howard Marks applies to be Blair's drugs czar

a CVs go, that of Howard Marks, the legendary marijuana smuggler and anti-Establishment champion, whose drugs empire once spanned the globe, may not sound the most appropriate applicant for the post of Tony Blair's new drugs czar, to spearhead the Government's assault on the narcotics trade. But none the less, he is applying for the job and hoping for an interview.

Since being released in 1995, after seven years of a 25-year jail term in one of America's toughest penitentiaries, Mr Marks, 52, misses being the scourge of the authorities: He misses "cranking up huge smugtheir noses," he said yesterday on a visit to England from his home in Majorca.

At the height of his powers during the 1980s he had 43 aliases and owned 25 companies around the world. set up to launder the proceeds from his massive marijuana shipments. He may not smuggle any more, but Last year he walked into Marylebone Police station he is still adament that drugs be legalised and uses smoking a joint and distributed "hash cakes" to passersevery opportunity to get this message across.

"That's why I'm standing for the drugs czar post," he said. "I'm writing my application form tonight and popping it in the post to Mr Blair." I suppose it's quite a CV I've got - I've certainly got the experience." Mr Marks spelt out his proposals for combatting the-

drugs problem in the UK. "I would legalise all drugs but, of course, there would

have to be restrictions on the harmful ones - fike a prescription or something. They would not be readiavailable on the street.

But the harmless ones, like marijauna, would be treated like cabbage and grown in gardens and allotments. Keep it home-grown." While he is aware that the PM's policies might be some-

what stricter, he remains ever the optimist. "There's always the chance he'll give me the job. You never know." Mr Marks has spent his two years of treedom writing and promoting his autobiography, Mr Nice, now out in paperback, travelling the UK to attend signing He is also making an appearance at the Edinburgh Festival and he recently set up a web site on the internet, giving details of events, music and his beloved marijuana. Throughout, he has kept up his legalisa-

In the general election, he stood for Parliament (and lost) in four constituencies on a legalisation ticket. And last weekend in Portsmouth, he was the guest of honour at a legalisation raily. True to form, he got himself arrested for lighting up.

Matthew Brace Letters, page 13

Supermarkets tighten grip on sales of CDs and videos

The dominance of supermarkets in every sphere of retailing has been underlined this week when it was revealed that they are the fastest growing sellers of CDs, tapes and videos. The big supermarket chains now account for 11 per cent of the total music and video market, up from just 3 per cent in five years, according to a report by Verdict retail consultants.

The most aggressive player in the market is Asda, which alone

accounts for 4 per cent of the market, but Sainsbury's, Safeway and Tesco have all expanded into music and videos in the last two years. The supermarkets have entered the market because they can make profits of up to 30 per cent on CDs and videos, which is much higher than the profits from foods. They have been boosting their share of sales by carrying just the top-selling titles and undercutting the prices of specialist record shops.

Supermarkets now account for more of the market than WH

Smiths (7.4 per cent) and Britannia (6.5 per cent), but the merged Virgin Megastores and Our Price stores remain the biggest sellers, with 18 per cent of all sales.

Paul McCann

FOOD

Roll out the bagels, it's lunchtime

Gone are the days of the standard sandwich. Pitta bread, bagels and foccacia are de rigeur in children's lunch boxes these days,

according to a survey by Sainsbury's.

Children are the biggest consumers of bread - 67 per cent of bread products that are bought are eaten by children under 16but, unlike the 65-plus age group, whose first choice is white, sliced bread, they are developing a more sophisticated palate. The survey of 11,000 children and adults revealed that pitta

bread is the most popular type of bread among under-fives but, between the ages of six and 10, a child's first choice is a bagel. Twenty-four per cent of pitta bread products are eaten by children under 16, compared with 17 per cent of white bread. Bagels are children's second favourite bread product overall, eaten by 18.3 per cent.

Foccacia is most popular with 25-44-year-old adults who have children, and has superseded the bagnette on the dinner table. Clare Garner



SOCIETY

Strong backing for ID cards

Four out of five young people support the introduction of compulsory identity cards for teenagers, according to a new survey. And researchers found that some three-quarters of all adults believe ID cards should be issued to everyone living in Britain. The findings of the NOP poll follow recent concerns about

under-age drinking and the growing debate about ID cards for And support for the introduction of compulsory ID cards was

highest among the over-55s, with 83 per cent approval.

Overall, four out of five said ID cards would help prevent underage drinking and smoking. Reservations centred on fears of a loss of freedom or privacy, which were highest among under-35s.

Electronic tagging 'does not work'

The use of electronic tags to place offenders under "house arrest". trials of which are currently being extended by the Government, are deeply flawed, according to a report by a prison reform group.

Based on research from the United States, Canada and Sweden, the study claims that tagging cannot stop offenders breaching curfews or committing further crimes. They are also unlikely to reduce the jail population, and people wearing tags have been attacked by vigilante groups, says the Prison Reform Trust. The critical report follows the Government's decision to double

the area in which tags are on trial, in Greater Manchester, Reading and Norfolk, in an attempt to find an alternative to

The trust questions whether tagging is just an expensive

Electronic Tagging: Viable Option or Expensive Diversion, £3.50 from PRT, 15 Northburgh St, London ECIV OAH. Jason Bennetto

Mother speaks for the first time about US baby ordeal

Caroline Beale, the Briton who was charged with murder and kept in jail after being arrested at JFK air-port in New York with the body of her new-born baby girl strapped to her stomach, spoke yesterday for the first time about her ordeal.

Ms Beale, 32, had always insisted that the baby, born in a hotel bath during a trip to New York in 1994, was still-born, and that she had panicked, wrapped its body in plastic bags and cleaned up the bath-

But before her trial, she was persuaded to plead guilty to manslaughter in exchange for being allowed to return immediately to Britain, where she would be treated by psychiatrists. Speaking on Radio 4's Woman's Hour, Ms Beale,

said it was a "terrifying" experience, but that she was now able to leave a relatively normal life. Recalling the night of her arrest, she said: "They had me handcuffed to the bed. The detective guy took my clothes and everything. I thought, if I could keep myself together and tell them what had hap-

pened, then they'd just let me go home." She said she had been motivated by an overpowering urge to bring the child's body back to England.
"He [the investigating detective] said to me 'why didn't you leave her here and you could have gone back to England and no-one would have known?', but I just knew I had to bring her home

"It all seems bizarre in retrospect, but I'm just a normal person," she said. Ms Beale, a civil servant from Chingford, Essex,



spent eight months in the notorious Riker's Island jail, sharing a cell with prostitutes and drug addicts. The harsh regime of beatings and ill-treatment

forced her to make a plea bargain, she said.
"I just remember it was kind of like - the state I was in I felt that whatever they said to me I'd say yes to because I wanted so much to go home."

Psychiatrists now argue that Beale was "in denial" throughout her pregnancy and in shock after the birth, and needed hospital treatment rather than im-

She said that being able to bury the baby, who she later named Oliva Ann, in Britain, made it easier to deal with her loss and enabled her to return to her job at the Department of Health.

Kate Watson-Smyth

Cameron Mackintosh denies Old Vic rescue bid

Sir Cameron Mackintosh vesterday distanced himself from suggestions that he might safeguard

the future of The Old Vic, after its current owners put it up for sale. The theatre's Canadian owner, Ed Mirvish, and his son David, who have supported the loss-making institution for 15 years, are seiling the playhouse for £7.5m,

having spent £2.5m restoring it. There had been reports that Sir Cameron, as well as the Royal Shakespeare Company, were interested in buying the Old Vic, but both were at pains to distance themselves yesterday. "Sir Cameron is definitely not

buying the Old Vic and there is no

truth in this rumour. He has no other comment to make," said his "The RSC is committed to the

Barbican and is involved in a lottery bid for the Collins Theatre in Islington. It is highly unlikely we would be involved in this," said an RSC spokesman. Ed Mirvish outbid Lord Lloyd

Webber and paid £550,000 to buy the Old Vic in 1982. After refurbishment, it reopened in October 1983, with two Sir Cameron Mackintosh musicals in the opening

Sir Peter Hall was appointed artistic director in January. His company has been told to vacate

it by 6 December. They have

staged 13 plays since he was ap-pointed, but the first part of the season ran at a loss. The sudden decision to sell has prompted concerns that Sir Peter was brought in simply to make the

theatre "look glamorous again", a view that he himself has voiced. But David Mirvish said yesterday: "Our key concern is that the Old Vic is the only part of our business activity that is not centred in Toronto."

continue next year, under impresario Bill Kenwright at a "major West End theatre". A deal is said to be near to completion. Jojo Moyes

Sir Peter's company is set to



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in Section Two.



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You, your car and how to end the affair

Christian Wolmar, author of a new pamphlet

on the car, on how to ease the gridlock

The search is on for alternatives

to the motor car.

A pamphlet published yesterday by Friends of the Earth suggests that in many European cities, fewer people use cars to get to work or for leisure journeys because alternatives have been made more desirable.

Britain is now about to embark on a search for similar solutions. Later this week, John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will outline the Goverument's thinking on transport, which will aim to get people out of their cars and into other forms of transport.

If some of the more radical proposals - such as congestion charging or restricting the entry of cars to city centres - are introduced, then it will mark the end of a century-long trend in which governments have tried to meet the ever-growing appetite of cars for land space and natural resources.

Friends of the Earth reckons we need urban areas to have the cycle networks of Dutch cities like Groningen, the public transport systems of Zurich and the pedestrianisation of Nuremberg."

It is a scenario that Mr Prescott would envy, but he does have one thing in his favour. Unlike other government initatives which are hamstrung by strictures on public spending, there may well be considerable sums of money available to improve transport. Lynn Sloman, deputy director of Transport 2000, said: "There's lots of ways that the Government can raise money from transport, as long as it manages to convince the Treasury that is should be allowed to recycle the money for transport schemes."

The most obvious source of revenue would be road pricing, charging motorists to enter city centres and charging local residents an annual fee for the right to have a car. But there are plenty of other potential new taxes. Car park spaces for employees could be taxed, both to deter their use and to raise money. Employers could be charged a transport tax, as in Paris. which will be used to fund new services. Out of town supermarkets could be forced to levy charges on their car parks, making it more desirable for

people to shop in city centres. The revenue from fines for speed cameras, which currently goes into the general fund could, instead, he used first to provide more cameras bringing in huge revenues which in turn could be used to fund transport

Although a paper on transport issued by the Labour party when it was in opposition last year ruled out many of these suggestions for extra taxes, Department of Transport sources now suggest that they are all being actively considered again. Public/private partnerships

will be encouraged as a way of funding new public transport schemes such as tram systems and possibly new London Underground lines. Yesterday, Mr Prescott was at

pains to point out that the Government is not anti-car, as suggested in leaks of his plans put out by the pro-motoring lob-

The Manchester effect

The 19-mile tram system from Bury to Altrincham has succeeded in getting Man-cunians out of their cars and on to public transport, a key aim in the Government's

transport strategy.
The £150m Metrolink (right) which goes through the city centre, has been very successful, with 13.4 mil-lion users last year. This is al-most double the number who used to use the old rail service linking the two towns before the tram service was opened five years ago.

According to surveys conducted by Metrolink, about a quarter of those passengers would otherwise have used their cars for those journeys. Moreover, peak traffic on roads from Bury and Altrincham into Manchester has gone down by 6 per cent since the opening of the line.

The success has prompted expansion of the line, but the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority has had difficulty in obtaining funding. After a lengthy delay,



work has just started on a £130m four-mile extension to Eccles, via Salford Quays. The scheme is a public/prival pertnership Planning approval has been obtained for two more extensions - 15 miles to Oldham and Rochdale, and 13 miles to the airport - but no

The Zurich experience



ropean cities retained their 00-year-old tram networks. which are now enjoying a renaissance and play a key role in their transport systems. In Zurich (above), the tram

is king. When a tram ap-proaches a traffic light, it triggers off a green signal ensuring it does not have to wait. The trams mostly take up road space which only buses and, sometimes, taxis, are allowed to use. They are always kept clean.

Swiss self-discipline – ensure that cars do not park in the narrow streets and block the rails. And most important, the trams always run on time.

Most are scheduled to operate every 7.5 minutes, with 5 minute intervals at peak times. The whereabouts of every tram is monitored constantly through sensors, and if there is a hold up spare trains are kept in sidings to bridge the gaps, ersuring there are no delays to passengers. According to Richard Helerli, the former municipal

engineer of the city, the image of the trams is in sharp. contrast to the British view of public transport: "Anyone who does not use the tram tends to be regarded as out of touch. Leading figures from economic and academic life would not consider commuting in any other way."

by, and he is keen to ensure that if curbs are out on car use, then improved public transport links must be in place to give motorists a viable alternative. However, as he holds both

the Transport and Environment portfolios, he is conscious that the damaging effects of the continued rise in car use cannot be allowed to continue. The suggested ways of getting

people out of their cars, many of which will be put forward in the Green Paper to be published this week, range from the small and cheap to the mega-project. In residential areas, trafficcalming measures and the widespread use of 20mph zones could lead to schoolchildren being able to walk or cycle to school again rather than having to be driven by parents.

Entry to busy motorways by private cars could be restricted, iving priority to trucks, while Mr Prescott is known to favour pedestrianisation schemes in town centres.

to endorse the targets for qua- the Earth, £6 95.

drupling the use of cycling by the year 2012, and a growing number of Labour MPs favour the setting of targets for reducing traffic, as put forward in a Private Members Bill by Welsh Nationalist and Green MP, Cynog Dafys. The previous government passed the Road Traffic Reduction Act, which requires local councils to examine ways of reducing traffic.

There could be a much greater emphasis on special lanes for buses, which are used by far more people than trains, but are considered the Cinderella sector of public transport because of their poor image. If buses were shown to be more reliable and punctual, then, according to surveys, many motorists would be prepared to forego their cars.

Roger Higman, transport coordinator of Friends of the Earth, said: "We know what needs to be done. It's a matter of the Government doing it." **■**Unlocking the Gridlock by The Government is expected Christian Wolmar, Friends of



Two wheels better than four: A cyclist in Regent's Park, central London, yesterday

Man named by police in hunt for serial rapist

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

Police are hunting a serial rapist who is believed to have attacked four women in Lon-

don, it was disclosed yesterday. The alleged victims came forward after Scotland Yard took the unusual step of issuing the name and photograph of Ernest Asamoah, 31, who detectives are looking for in connection with the rape of a 17-year-old Italian tourist. Police believe Mr Asamoah, who uses a serial of false names, is

still living in London. The Italian student was in a coma for five days after she jumped from a second-floor flat in Stoke Newington, north London, to escape from her at-

Scotland Yard revealed last week that Mr Asamoah, who was born in Ghana, had been questioned after the attack, but

was released. Since issuing details of the incident, three other women have contacted the police claiming they had been victims between

May and July. In each case, they claim to have been lured back to the home of a man in Stoke Newington.

The police warned yesterday that the alleged serial rapist was "very plausible and charming" and preyed on students and old-

In two separate cases, a woman was allegedly befriend-ed by a man while travelling on a night bus and agreed to go back to his home and a second women was persuaded to go back to a man's flat after meeting him in Finsbury Park. One women was allegedly raped and the other indecently as-

In a third incident, a man befriended two women while out walking and asked them back to his home for a drink. Once they arrived at his flat in Stamford Hill, Stoke Newington, only one of the women was allowed

When the second started to shout for help, the man threatened her with a kitchen knife. She continued to call for assistance and two men came to her Apenteng.

aid. The woman trapped inside the flat managed to escape as the two men scuffled with her alleged assailant.

A police spokeswoman said: We issued a two-fold appeal for help to find Asamoah and to hear from other women who had been attacked. We are now investigating four possible cases; two of rape, one of indecent assault and one of unlawful imprisonment

These women ... have helped us form a clearer picture of the serial attacker and the way he operates. He has attacked students and older women. He is obviously very plausible, charming and friend-

Mr Asamoah, a kitchen assistant who has worked in restaurants in Chelsea, Fulham and central London, is said to frequent the West End.

He uses a string of aliases including Samson Mensah James Awuley, Ernest Amos. Ernest Asamiah and Paul Kofe Mensah. He also uses the first names Yaw, Ofsh-ene and



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MP faces action over suicide case

whips' office at the time had

failed to act.



Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

A Labour MP faces disciplinary action over claims that he took part in a whispering campaign against a colleague which may have helped drive him to suicide.

Tommy Graham, the member for Renfrewshire West, was named along with the party's former deputy chief whip, Don Dixon, in a note left by the Pais-ley South MP Gordon Mc-Master when he killed himself

An internal party inquiry

into the death is believed to have concluded that Mr Graham had spread rumours about two years ago when they investigated claims of vote-rigging in his constituency, but that the Mr McMaster despite his denial of the claim. It is likely that he could have the party whip suspended, with an announcement possibly as early as today. . Labour officials were sug-

gesting last night that they wanted to see the affair cleared up before the launch of Labour's "yes" campaign on Scottish devolution tomorrow. Party sources in Scotland

should have been disciplined

Graham had taken part in a campaign against Mr McMaster, who was suffering from fatigue caused by myalgic encephalitis (ME). Rumours had circulated that he was gay and might have AIDS. Mr Graham has said have claimed that Mr Graham

publicly since his colleague's Liam For, wrote an open letter death that he had a serious to Tony Blair demanding that he drink problem.

The suicide has also caused old allegations to resurface The latest inquiry was carried about politics in Paisley. Mr Mcout by the current chief whip, Master believed that one reason for his unpopularity was that he had campaigned against drugs gangs in the area along with the Paisley North MP Nick Brown, who received a number of affidavits from par-ty members who swore that Mr Irene Adams. Mrs Adams had alleged that a company set up with public money had been, used to launder drug money. Last night the Conservatives

return from his holiday in Europe to sort out the affair. In his letter, he wrote: "Labour's disarray in the west of Scotland has been allowed to continue unabated for far too long." Re-ferring to similar problems in other areas of Scotland, he added: "We were told that the situation in Monklands, Glas-

circumstances. That is no longer a credible excuse." Meanwhile the Scottish Sec-Scottish affairs spokesman, Dr retary, Donald Dewar, admit-

gow and Govan were all special

was worried about the possible impact of the Paisley crisis on the devolution vote. "Clearly there is a problem. Clearly I am concerned and worried, because I read the newspapers like everyone else," he said. But he hoped Scots would recognise the devolution debate

was about a "great matter of principle" - of how Scotland should be governed. "I will want to the best of my ability to ar-gue that case. But the distractions and the difficulties ... are obviously a matter of worry."



Mir crew shut off power as station spins

Helen Womack Moscow

The Russian-American team on Mir yesterday shut down all but its most vital life-support systems to save energy after a computer failure disoriented the ailing 11-year-old space station. An official at Mission Control spoke of the complex "chaotically spinning" But displaying the most remarkable sang-froid, he said that there was no immediate danger to the crew.

Russians glued to the space drama had just breathed a sigh of relief at a tea-time television report of a successful docking operation when a later bulletin brought them a fuller picture and more bad news. The docking of a Progress cargo craft to Mir had had to be done manually, it turned out, because of a computer failure, which had implications for the whole station.

"We have turned off all energy consuming equipment and left only life support operations," said Vladimir Solovyov, a senior official at Mission Control. It was likely to take 24 hours to correct the computer malfunction and until then Mir would be "chaotically spinning", he said. Kathleen Ma-liga, a guest from Nasa at Russian Mission Control, commented: "It's a situation that we're watching carefully but we are not worried."

As a result of the latest set-back, the crew will not now be able to go ahead tomorrow with plans to repair Mir's Spektr module, which was damaged during a clumsy manual docking of another Progress cargo craft in June. The station has been running on half power since the bump to the module, which had to be disconnected from the rest of the station.

Mir gets its energy from the Sun. whose rays hit the solar panels all over its outer surface. The loss of Spektr meant the loss of the energy that its panels contributed. Now that the whole station is disoriented, even fewer of the Sun's rays are being cap-

Anatoly Solovyov, the highly experienced commander of the crew, which also includes Pavel Vinogradov and Michael Foale, may be able to correct Mir's position in relation to the Sun. They could use the thrusters on the Progress cargo craft and the Soyuz transport rocket which brings the spacemen up and takes them back to the Earth. But this is not a long-term solution; and it is essential the computer is fixed if the station is not to be evacuated. As well as the computer, the oxygen generating and humidity recycling systems have been playing up on Mir which, when it was launched in 1986, was only supposed to serve for five years. The Russians are hoping that, if the repairs are a success, they can keep the orbiting banger going until a new international space station is ready next century.



Leading article, page 13 Weighty training: American astronaut David Wolf, guided by frogmen, floats down to a mock-up of Mir in a water tank at Star City Photograph: AP

BP to sue Greenpeace for £1.4m

Kate Watson-Smyth

British Petroleum has begun a f1.4m damages action against the environmental pressure group Greenpeace and four of police moved in to evict them. Greenpeace had begun landof an oil installation, it emerged

The company has issued a summons against the group and is seeking damages for losses following the "unlawful activities" of protesters during the week-long occupation off the Shetland Islands. A spokesman for Greenpease said last night that the writ threat-ened the future of the group. Those named in the sum-

mons, issued by the High Court in Edinburgh, are two senior directors of the group, Sarah Burton and Chris Rose. The others are the campaigner Liz Pratt and the captain of the MV Greenpeace John Castle.

Gerry Doyle, a spokeswoman for the group, said last night:
This could threaten the very future of our organisation."

He said a "schedule of arrestment" had been issued from the Edinburgh Court of Sessions, seeking £1.4m from the group and the four members and "all moveable things in your hands belonging or obtaining to them".

It was addressed to the

Scotland and a hearing for an interim interdict is due to be

held before the court today.

The last five protesters left the installation on Sunday after ing activists on the rig on 9 August as it set out to begin testing work in the Foinaven field off

the west coast of Scotland. It was part of a campaign to highlight alleged climate change by the pressure group.

Chris Rose said: "BP made £1.5bn in its first six months of the year - it makes more in profit in 48 hours than Greenpeace receives income in a year. BI is trying to use its financial and legal muscle to crush defence of the environment. BP may try to take away our money and our supporters' money - but that will not make BP right and it will not absolve them of responsibility for their role in global environmental pollution.

"BP is leading the world in the wrong direction by opening up fossil fuels that the climate cannot sustain - but it would rather close down Greenpeace than ... invest in solar power." A spokesman for BP said: "We have begun proceedings against Greenpeace Ltd and other individuals in concern with unlawful activities on the rig and for the financial loss that

Girl accused of lies over attack

Louise Jury

An English tourist allegedly attacked by five British soldiers in Cyprus broke down in tears yesterday when a defence lawyer said her "lies" could send an innocent man to prison.

Tassos Katsikides, defending one of the soldiers, Roger Bell, called Claire Harbour a liar on at least 10 occasions in cross-examination in a Cypriot court.

The five soldiers are charged with causing grievous bodily barm and actual bodily harm to Ms Harbour and two other English holidaymakers. They all

deny the charges. Mr Tatsikides said Ms Harbour, 22, started the incident outside an Ayia Napa disco earlier this month which left her boyfriend, Barry Ford, with cracked ribs, a broken wrist and a face wound, and Shane Bell

with a fractured jaw. Ms Harbour, of Lee Green, south-east London, burst into tears when Mr Katsikides claimed his client was the real victim. He said: "I put it to you that the accused was assaulted by you and Barry Ford, especially

Barry who was out of control. Ms Harbour said: "I was pulled by my hair while Barry was kicked and punched." But Mr Katsikides said Ms Harbour, a nursery nurse, was only worried about the £25,000 damages she is claiming as damages. Ms Harbour denied this. Mr Ford, a quantity surveyor, and Mr Bell, a car mechanic, both 23,

are claiming similar amounts. Another English tourist, Sasha Wright, 20, also gave evidence yesterday about the attack, in which her boyfriend Danny Lambert, 23, tried to intervene. She said eight men took it in turns to punch and kick Mr Ford on the floor.

The five accused are Roger Bell, 26, Tim Carter, 27, Steven Wolstencroft, 26, Steven Girvan, 20, and Stuart Spencer, 20, all from the 1st Battalion King's Regiment stationed at Dhekeha Garrison in Larnaca. The tri-

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de case BP to sue Greenpeace for £1.4m

Father, 11, hides as pregnant girl faces the music

The families of an 11-year-old boy and the 15-year-old girl he made pregnant were last night struggling to come to terms with the fact that the youngsters

were having a baby.

Theresa Stewart and her son. Sean, 11, now Britain's youngest known father, have gone into hiding while the mother-to-be, Emma Webster, 15, braved the media with her parents.

Emma, who lives next door to Sean in Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire, said she only found out how young he was when she told his mother she was expecting his baby. She was, she said, angry with Sean for giving her the impression that he was

that he attends Margaret Beaufort Middle School in Riseley had apparently not made her

pregnant to his mum and his mum turned around and said how can an 11-year-old be the father?" that I knew," she said. "I was shocked and I wanted to know why he had lied to me about his age."

But once Emma had overcome the initial shock, she adjusted to the idea of being pregnant and adopted the attitude: "It was my mistake, nothing can change it now." She has even chosen names for the baby, who will be her parents' first grandchild: Rebecca Jade if it is a girl and Ben Louis if it

suspicious.
"It was not until I said I was

She is still seeing Sean, whom she has dated since November, and hopes he will give as much support as he can. Her parents have agreed to look after the baby, which is due in January, when she returns to Sharn-

A spokeswoman for the Fam-ily Planning Association described the pregnancy as "an isolated case". She added: "I have never heard of an 11-yearold boy making a girl pregnant before." Records reveal the ages of young mothers, but not

fathers. In 1995, for example, there was one live birth to an 11year-old and two to 12-year-olds. In most cases of a young girl becoming pregnant the fa-ther is either the same age or

It was only when Emma went the tests were positive."

unwell that she discovered she was pregnant. "I thought I might have had a bug or some-thing," she said. "The doctor said the symptoms I had made him think I was pregnant and

and father, Ray, 49, were devastated when they heard that she had been impregnated by an 11-year-old. First, they had thought the "mature-looking" Scan was 14 and, second, they had no idea that the pair were support," said a spokesman.

Putting on a brave face: Schoolgirl Emma Webster, 15, from Sharmbrook in Bedfordshire, who is having a baby. The father is her 11-year-old next door neighbour, who has gone into hiding Photograph: Stefan Rousseau

having sex. "We didn't realise they were sleeping together until Emma dropped that little bombshell about the baby,"

said Mr Webster. Six weeks on, they have ac justed to the news and are impressed by the way the youngsters have handled the sit uation. "I think they have done everything that could be asked of them," said Mrs Webster, who has, with her husband, discussed the baby with Sean's family.

Sean's mother. Theresa. said to be unhappy with the sit uation. She reportedly said before disappearing to an unknown address: "He [Sean] is only a child. He doesn't re-ally understand what is going on. This has put him under tremendous pressure. She [Emma] is much more mature and experienced than him, and I worry as any mother would."

Emma, who turns 16 in November, decided to keep the baby after much soul-searching and counselling. Her parents have agreed to take financial responsibility for the baby's upbringing, and are not expecting any contributions from Sean or his family. They do not, however, intend to hide the situation from the child, who would be told that Sean, who turns 12

in December, was the father. Bedfordshire County Council said social workers were monitoring the situation. "We have been in contact with both sets of families and children involved and we are offering our



Kim Sengupta and Steve Boggan

Two British nurses on trial for murder in Saudi Arabia are to receive urgent medical treatment as signs grow that they have already been found guilty of killing an Australian colleague, Whitehall sources said yes-

ties have agreed to a Foreign Office request for Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan to be seen by a British doctor because of their deteriorating physical and mental condition.

However, while hopes were raised that their "harsh and spartan" treatment at a women's prison in Damman might improve, their legal position remained confused. Their lawyers were told last week that their case had been referred to a higher court, the Cassation Court, a form of appeal court, but they were not told why and they have not been told whether the Saudi court has reached a

Ms Parry, 38, from Alton, Hampshire, and 31-year-old Ms McLauchlan, from Dundee. are said to be suffering from a number of ailments because of ing, whereas another verdict, their incarceration in poor conditions since December. They were arrested after Yvonne Gilford, 55, was found stabbed to death at the King Pahd medical complex at Dhahran.

Informed sources state that the medical checks may be the precursor to the two women being freed following a show of clemency by the Saudi If they have been found guilty

of murder then the two women face possible death by behead-



Fears are growing for the health of Lucille McLauchlan (above) and Deborah Parry



approximating to manslaughter under British law, would carry a sentence of around five years. However, authorities in Riyadh, according to a senior source, are desperately keen to avoid capital punishment. A jail sentence could lead to the women being freed on medical grounds to receive treatment in Britain.

At the moment, however, neither their lawyers nor the Foreign Office know why their case has been referred to the

ing Miss Parry, said: "It could be because the court has found them guilty, moving the case automatically one step along the process, or it could be that the udges have referred the case for

clarification on a point of law. "Neither we nor the Foreign Office have been informed of a

for clarification, the most likely reason is for the higher court, which is presided over by five judges, to examine an Australian court ruling on the case. Under Saudi law, all members of a victim's family have the right to call for the death penalty, but they must be unanimous.

The Australian court ruled two weeks ago that Ms Gilford's mother may not be well enough to make such a decision, as she is in the advanced stages of Alzheimer's disease. That means that calls for the death penalty by Ms Gilford's brother, Frank, may not be enough in themselves for the court to allow the women to be beheaded.

Members of the charged nurses' families met lawyers and Foreign Office officials in Manchester yesterday but a Foreign Office spokesman said they had no more information about the reason for the referral to the Cassation Court.

A spokeswoman for the Saudi embassy said she was unable to confirm or deny that the case had been referred to the Cassation Court. Before the women can be executed, the case must climb to a third court, the Higher Judicial Council, before being put before King Pahd for his approval. The whole process could take up to two years.



Camelot's rival gets the green light

Louise Jury

A rival numbers game to the National Lottery is legal, a court ruled yesterday, after Camelot, the lottery organisers, brought a private prosecution to test the law.

Magistrates at Bow Street Court, London, said the "49s" game, run by Britain's biggest bookmakers, was a fixed-odds bet and not a lottery, and should therefore, be allowed to continue.

The decision confirmed advice from the Crown Prosecution Service that the game did not contravene the 1976 Lotteries and Amusements Act. But spokeswoman for

Camelot, Joanna Manning-Cooper, said the company was disappointed and intended to appeal. This is just the first stage in the process of clarifyshe added.

ing," she added.

The game was introduced in December last year by Lad-

brokes, William Hill and Coral after all bookies reported severe losses because of competition from the National Lottery. Punters bet at fixed odds on whether up to five numbered balls will be among six chosen at random by a machine.

Camelot said it wanted to clarify whether a game very similar to the lottery should be allowed to draw the public - and therefore profits - away from the lottery and the good canses it funds.

But Ronald Bartle, stipendiary magistrate, said: "The predominant aspects of 49s are of betting and not a lottery." He rejected Camelot's claims

He rejected Camelot's claims Camelot's decision to bring a that legal costs should be met prosecution against expert advice. from the public purse. The company had claimed it was trying to clarify a legal principle.

Mr Bartle said: "I can't help coming to the view that this case was essentially about a commercial matter, fundamentally whether betting shops should be our business by the lottery."

allowed to draw punters away from Camelot. I don't think that this type of action should be financed by the taxpayer."

Camelot had previously failed to persuade the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney General to investigate the game. Customs and Excise and the Gaming Board had also advised that no public prosecution should be launched.

 Mr Barde ordered Camelot to pay the bookmakers costs of £305,000, as well as their own legal costs, which he indicated would match those of the bookmakers. He said his ruling on costs was influenced by

Afterwards, John Brown, managing director of William Hill and chairman of 49s Ltd. said he was delighted. "49s has been of some help to the bookmaking industry in helping us to reduce the damage done to



arl accused

es over attad*

McAlpine's Fusiliers are on the march back to the old country lured by higher wages



A boom in the Irish building trade has brought reverse migration

Alan Murdoch Louise Hancock and Lucy McDonald

Building sites in Britain face an acute shortage of skilled labour as the Irish army of "McAlpine's Fusiliers" is hared home by higher wages in Ireland's booming construction sector.

The reverse migration, of Irish building workers who would traditionally have looked to this side of the Irish Sea for work, is now set to accelerate.

Official figures published yesterday indicate that the Irish construction boom will run until at least 2003 following a 50 per cent surge in output between 1994 and 1996. Not for nothing is Dublin known as

The move back across the Irish Sea has been encouraged by Dublin-based firms in recent months through an advertising campaign funded by their emplovers' association in Britain's Irish publications. The move drew 3,000 responses.

The Irish Republic's envi-

matically from 71,000 two years ago to about 93,000 in April this year. He said "output growth was unprecedented in the history of the state, and unmatched in any other EU member". He envisages that the on-site jobs total would pass 100,000 in 2000.

Construction sources said the projections were, if anything, too cautious, putting this year's output rise at 8 per cent when the real figure may come closer to 10 per cent. The boom is across a range

of areas, from major office projects, new hotels, increased council house building, and a surge in new private housing prompted by the Republic's sustained period of low interest rates (underpinned by nine years of wage accords with unions) and rising employment. More than £500m has been invested in new city-centre apartment blocks since the late 1980s. Road-building has had several years of European

Union-assisted expansion. The figures from the Irish Department of Environment also point to strong a conronment minister, Noel struction performance in 1998 and 1999, though slightly below



Irish navvies have long been an institution on building sites in the South of England, with family networks helping find work for the steady flow of migrants over the decades.

London's Irish builders entered the national culture with songs in their honour, notably the rousing "McAlpine's Fusiliers," sung by Romie Drew and The Dubliners.

However, the flow of Irish labour out of Britain, including skilled bricklayers, plasterers and load movers, has accounted for about 2,000 of the extra 8,000 employed in building in Ireland this year compared with ment in Ireland jumped dra- this year's exceptional growth. her, director-general of Ire- ing the German boom, after the of a gimmick, as we found that, In Dublin, under productiv- It has caused a problem here money is."

land's Construction Industry Federation. "That's just the contracting [building] side, and doesn't include architects and engineers, surveyors, estimators, project planners and IT staff, for whom employment has increased also," Mr Kelleher

said. They are also being targeted in Britain by Irish firms. "The outlook is good. People who emigrated in during the boom years in the UK in the late Eighties, are now contemplating returning when they're get-ting married and having kids."

That past trend means the typical Irish worker in Britain is likely to be slightly older than

Berlin Wall came down in 1989. An estimated 500,000 workers left the British construction sector following the end of the Eighties boom. The precise numbers of returned Irish emigrants among that total is hard to determine. Many projects are short-term and may not involve permanent moves back.

Neglect of training in Ireland during the past 10 to 15 years has left many unemployed within Ireland unqualified to take up current vacancies, according to Paddy O'Shaughnessy of the Dublin-based Building and Allied Trades Union.

He claimed that Irish builders advertising in Britain "was a bit while the industry was in a good state, much against the perception of an acute skills shortage there was actually a surplus of bricklayers in the Dublin area early this year."

Mr O'Shaughnessy said the appearance of English-based workers in Dublin, some with only slight family connections, had occurred only once before during the Irish boom in the late Seventies. "Sisks, one of the biggest contractors here, recruited a lot of bricklayers in the North-west of England. The [Irish] employers simply haven't been recruiting enough young people to the trades of brick-

laying and plastering."

ity-related terms, those trades can now earn rates of £500 a week, slightly ahead of British levels - £11 an hour for bricklayers against £9.50 an hour in

John Ring, business manager of Luton-based sub-contractors Murtagh, said: "People from all over the UK are going over to Ireland: for the money and quality of life. There is a phenomenal amount of building work going on at the mo-ment, partly funded by the EU. particularly roads.

From 1996 we noticed ads Construction News and the [London] Evening Standard ask-

LISTINGS SUPPLEMENT (FINANCE/BUSINESS/LAW)

without a doubt. The construction industry is out of the recession and apprenticeships were cut during the recession, therefore we don't have the new workers coming through,-but now we don't have labour to accommodate this. Plus, workers

are heading to Germany." Keith Banbury, chief executive of the Chartered Institute of Building, said the boom economy in Dublin has meant that "the construction skill trades are getting better than average money in Dublin at the moment. That is having a knock-on effect in terms of skill shortages in the UK mainland. People will go where the

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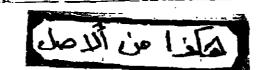
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№ THE INDEPENDENT

Friday 22 August





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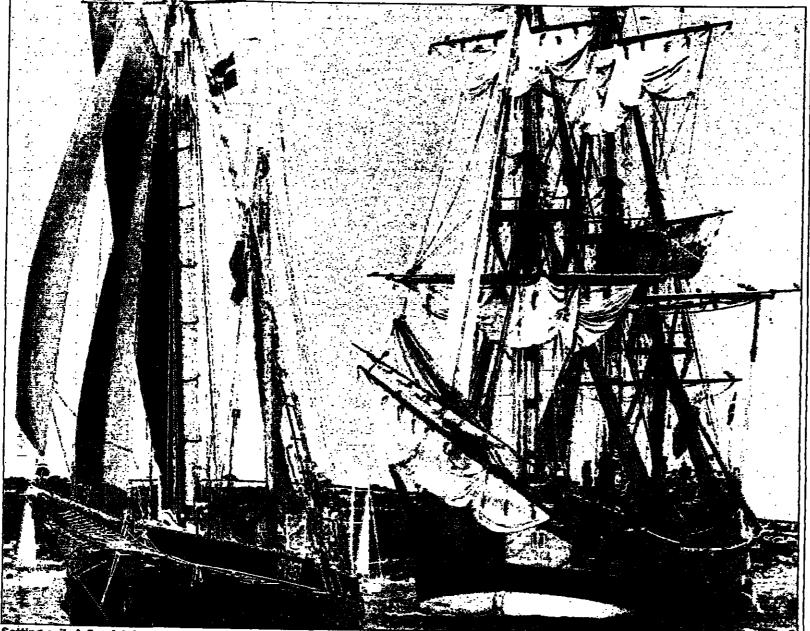
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Setting sail: A Cornish lugger, Iris, leads the £8m replica of Captain James Cook's ship, Endeavour, out of Falmouth for Plymouth. The ship is touring Britain and has sailed from Captain Cook's birthplace in the North-east

Major pitches in to cricket academy row

John Major joined in the row over Labour's decision to exclude cricket from its planned academy of sporting excellence yesterday, describing the move as "a huge error" that could lead to the game being ambushed by satellite television.

The former prime minister spoke out with the support of Conservative Central Office after returning from holiday in France and reading of the plans

with dismay.

Mr Major, a devoted and knowledgeable cricket fan, issued a statement in which he said Labour's plans for the £100m centre to concentrate on Olympic and non-commercial sports instead of rugby, cricket and football showed how little the Government knew about

the country's sporting heritage. Yesterday, Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, met Lord MacLaurin, chairman of the English Cricket Board, in an attempt to defuse what is growing into a major embarrassment for the Government, Lord MacLaurin had challenged Mr Smith to remove cricket from

must remain on terrestrial television if it was to be excluded from the academy. That way, cricket could afford to fund its own academy, he said.

On the BBC Radio 4's Today programme, Mr Smith refused to rule out that option, causing consternation among armchair cricket fans who do not have satellite dishes and leading some observers to question Tony Blair's continuing cosy relationship with Rupert Murdoch, owner of the BSkyB satellite television company.

In his statement, Mr Major said: "The Labour Government have made a huge error in excluding cricket, rugby and football. They should admit their mistake now and reverse the policy before it makes a mockery of our nation's sport-

What the Labour Government has done is to take out those sports which are at the heart of the nation. The pride that the whole nation feels over the success of the British Lions and our teams at Euro 96 should be recognised through a place in the sporting academy."

During his meeting with

the protected list of sports that
must remain on terrestrial telesaid cricketers would be allowed to use some of the academy's facilities - such as sports science and medicine - and he invited the English Cricket Board to ap-ply for lottery money to fund its own academy. The ECB had al-ready published blueprints for

a centre of excellence. Mr Major, however, was not impressed. "The offer of future lottery money is simply a figleaf to cover their embarrassment at excluding this sport from the academy," he said. After his meeting with the

ECB, Mr Smith said he planned to meet the authorities again with the English Sports Council to discuss the cricket academy plans forward. "The board have also promised to let me have their views on the review of the current list of sporting events made available for general free to air broadcast," he said. "We are both agreed that a proper balance has to be struck between the interests of television viewers who want to see world-class cricket and the interests of cricket as a game in securing its fair share of its financial potential."

Children promised new era in help for learning problems

Health service chiefs yesterday with learning difficulties.

From next month, youngsters with dyslexia and dyspraxto receive all their health and educational care under one

Experts hope the opening of The Dyscovery Centre in Cardiff, funded by the private health care company Healthcall, will mark the start of a new era of improved services for these children and their families.

Up to 10 per cent of children in the United Kingdom suffer from dyspraxia or "clumsy child disorder" which causes problems in language, perception and thought. However, the level of awareness of the condition

still remains low. One in 25 people is dyslexic of the brain - and this is more common in boys than girls.

In the future, the company plans to open a network of Dr Amanda Kirby, director

of The Dyscovery Centre, said: The launch of The Dyscovery Centre, the first of its kind, is in response to an acute shortage of service provision for those who encounter special learning difficulties.

We believe that a one-stop shop for assessment, treatment and support for children, adolescents and parents is long

Healthcall decided to set up the centre in a bid to boost the support and help available for children with learning difficulties and their families.

- a difficulty in reading and through self-referral, or GPs spelling caused by a condition can buy the service for their patients.

Currently, children with learning difficulties can have treatment in a variety of difterent settings and some have to travel long distances to get the care they need.

At the centre, a team of educational psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, behavioural optometrists, physiotherapists and specialist teachers will work together to provide assessment and treatment

So far, six staff have been signed up but Dr Kirby expects that number to rise once the centre is up and running.

She said: "We have had a lot of calls already from parents of children with learning difficulties who are interested in bring-Treatment can be gained ing them to the centre."

Welsh rivals squabble over campaign cash

Rival groups in the Welsh devolution campaigns yesterday turned their attention to financial matters as disagreements surfaced over the amount of money being raised and spent by the "Yes" and "No" camps.
The umbrella "Say Yes For members of the public.

Wales" campaign has already raised £90,000. Yesterday the campaign took space in the Cardiff-based Western Mail to appeal for more. Apart from a £20,000 grant from the Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust to meet set-up costs, the campaign has relied on contributions from endum," he said.

DAILY POEM

To Christ

By Maureen Sangster

Oh Christ, ye're juist a meenister ye're nae bloody eese tae me Ye winna come an mak ma mither's tea

a stuck up little mannie bawkin oot yer words o Love for God's sake, come doon tae earth an wear the oven glove

fit wye is this, Messiah, that I maun lose ma life carin for ma mither fan ma brither's got - a wife?

if ye'd come roon on Sunday gie me a helpin hand one shot o handlin the commode an you wid understand

ma life is juist a constant roon o meals and bloody peels if the hand o God is in this, Christ, it's a mystery nae revealed

This poem comes from Out of the Urn, a first collection by Maureen Sangster, who was born in Aberdeen, taught in Nigeria and now lives in Edinburgh. It is published by Scottish Cultural Press at £4.95.

The "No" campaign is backed by the millionaire Sir Julian Hodge from his home in Jersey. Its spokesman, Matthew Gunther-Bushell, declined to reveal the extent of Sir Julian's gen-erosity: "We have received a modest contribution from him. Full accounts will be published after the 18 September refer-Leighton Andrews, for the

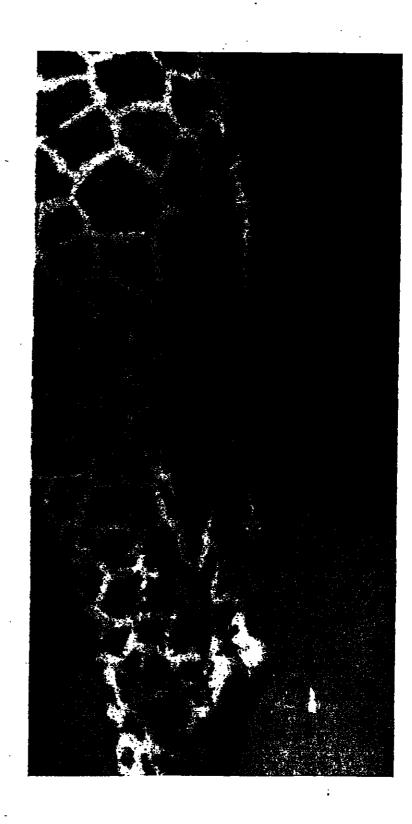
"Yes" campaign, which, like its rival, receives no public funding, said it appeared that the "No" camp's benefactor was spending freely. "We are seeking an additional £20,000 to counter the propaganda that is coming out. We do not have a wealthy tax exile to bankroll our efforts to bring greater democ-racy to Wales," he said. Peter Hain, the Welsh Office

minister, was on the campaign trail again yesterday. He toured the South Wales valleys, visiting Blackwood, Newbridge and Pontypool to build on what he described as the success of a foray in the Rhondda last week.

People have a chance to help defeat the Tories for a second time and win a 'Yes' vote next month." the minister

In North Wales, Jeff Rooker forsook his Birmingham Perry Barr constituency to team up with Martyn Jones, the MP for Clwyd South. They spent some of their time in Llangollen where at this time of the year tourists outnumber the local

will make sure that North Wales is not neglected as it was by previous governments.".



Embarrassed Australia tries to calm South Pacific storm

Sydney

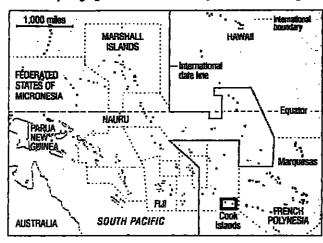
As Alexander Downer, Australia's Foreign Minister, embarked on a visit to the South Pacific, his mandarins at home were preparing to discipline two officials yesterday over the publication of a highly secret government document whose insulting comments about Australia's Pacific neighbours, including New Zealand, have severely embarrassed Canberra.

Prepared by officials in the capital, drawing on Australia's intelligence agencies and marked "top secret", the document described some Pacific island nation political leaders as "crooks", "drunks" and "lickspittle", and made disparaging comments

influence in the Pacific region.

The document was drawn up as a confidential briefing paper for Australian ministers attending a conference, in northern Queensland last month, of finance ministers from member countries of the South Pacific Forum. It has so infuriated Fiji that the country's new Foreign Minister, Berenado Vunibobo, announced before Mr Downer's departure for the Pacific last Saturday that he would refuse to receive him. The document made uncomplimentary remarks about Mr Vumbobo personally

and about his political style. Mr Vunibobo relented only after pressure from Sitiveni Rabuka, Prime Minister of Fiji. Ten years after leaving the



Plea to join France falls on deaf ears

Papeete (Reuters) — Following the lead of unhappy residents of the Comoros group, some dissatisfied denizens of French Polynesia are now seeking closer ties to France for their island.

Lucien Kimitete, mayor of the South Pacific island of Nukn Hiva, urged Paris at the week- French Polynesia, which is end to transform the Marquesas islands, part of the semi-autonomous French Polynesia, into a full-fledged part of France as an overseas department.

"Polynesia's autonomous status does not inspire our confidence. There is a risk, in our eyes, that the territory could become independent," Mr Kimitete told asked to return to French rule. blunder in years.

territories. But Mr Queyranne tus for Nuku Hiya.

Support for complete independence from France is confined to a vocal minority in heavily dependent on French financial support. Department status would mean significantly more aid for the island group.

Two of the three Indian Ocean islands of the Islamic Republic of Comoros have recently declared their independence from the republic and

re-admission at the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Edinburgh in October. Its acceptance requires unanimous endorsement from Commonwealth members. Australia and New Zealand have signalled their willingness to support Fiji's re-admission, and Fili is anxious not to upset its chances by risking a further diplomatic breach.

Mr Downer, though, will be elcomed in Suva, the Fiji capital, through gritted teeth. Asked about the row before he left Australia at the weekend, he said: "[Mr Vunibobo] wants to put the whole issue of the South Pacific documents behind him and that is certainly the view of the Prime Minister of Fijl. We are delighted that the Fiji goverament is taking that con-structive view, and I think that

all goes very well for my visit." The document's contents appeared in Australian newspapers after three journalists arrived to register at the July conference in Cairns. When an official went to obtain their media passes, the journalists noticed documents on the table and picked them up, assuming they were press releases.

The document asserted that New Zealand wanted "to differentiate itself from Australia' and "to act in ways which complicate Australian diplomacy". It added that "many officials and politicians in Wellington [the capital] still like to believe that New Zealand, because of its smaller size, [and] links to Polynesia ... is part of the Pacific in a way that Australia is not".

The Marshall Islands, acting chairman of the forum, and the Federated States of Micronesia were headlined as "Imprudent Micronesians". The Cook Islands and Nauru were in a category called "Bottom of the [economic] heap". Papua New Guinea, Australia's northern neighbour, was lumped with two other nations under a heading

Melanesian Mayhem" The decision to discipline the Canberra officials came after an inquiry into the affair headed by Australia's inspector general of intelligence and security. The Australian press has described the affair as Australia's most serious security Peter Popham takes a literary ride into Eastern culture with an old India hand



Staying on: Nigel Hankin, who has lived in India since 1945, riding in a rickshaw in Old Delhi and, below, with a copy of his book, Hanklyn-Janklyn,

Going doolally in Delhi with a cushy number, a glass of simkin and a plate of rumble tumble

Fifty years after Independence, the human relics of the British Raj, those who have hung on in India ever since,

For all its dazzling human variety, India had no natural space for permanent white residents: their connection to the colonial power was so close that, once the Raj had gone, most British people soon followed. The only group with an ostensibly closer bond to the country, the Anglo-Indians, also migrated en masse after Independence, many of them to Australia.

So Nigel Hankin, who has been living in Delhi since 1945, is an exceptional figure. A tall, bony, immensely vigorous man, Hankin was born in Sussex in 1920. He spent the war in the Army in Britain and North Africa, and first arrived in India in July 1945, en route to Burma. The war ended before he could get there, however, and instead he settled in Delhi, working for 10 years in private business, and for the subsequent 20 in the British High Commission, "which is near enough Britain", he says.
"Through all those formative years I was completely sheltered from India.'

But, one day, during his years at the High Commission, a seed was planted. A doctor, Sidney Hamilton, newly arrived in Delhi to work at the High Commission, gave Hankin a list of some 20 words which he had encountered in Delhi's English

newspapers: what did they mean?

"His problem," Hankin writes in
the Preface of his book HanklynJanklyn, which has just been published
in its third edition, "was nothing new: almost 150 years ago Sir Charles Napier had a similar difficulty: '1844, Headquarters, Kurrachee,

12th February.
The Governor unfortunately does not understand Hindostanee, nor Persian, nor Mahratta, nor any other eastern dialect. He, therefore, will feel particularly obliged to ... officers ... to indite their various papers in English, larded with as small a portion of the to him unknown tongues as they conveniently can, instead of those he generally receives - namely

Hindostanee larded with occasional

words in English'." Hankin set out to answer Dr Hamilton's questions, and ended up with a life's work. Hanklyn-Janklyn, inspired by Sir Henry Yule's mid-Victorian Hobson-Jobson, is a glossary of words, some Hindi or Urdu, some English, some hybrids, some Indian coinages, which the British visitor will meet if he stays long enough.



'In every respect the book is the essential companion for a griffin (a newly arrived European unused to the ways of the East)'

invaluable. Non-English terms spatter the pages of India's English if granted and the charge is made, he newspapers. Entire front-page stories can hinge on a term that leaves the visitor completely blank: the application by Bihar's notoriously corrupt chief minister, Laloo Yadav, for "anticipatory bail", for example.

Hankin gets to the meat of the matter

at once. "A provision unique in the

anticipation of a criminal accusation,

a person may apply to a court for bail:

world's judicial codes, whereby in

will be exempt from police custody."

But Hanklyn-Janklyn is much more than just a glossary. Hankin is not an academic, and is answerable to no one but himself, and his book is a picaresque collection of rambles through the British experience of the subcontinent. So we learn about the thugees, the gangs of brigands whose deeds of ritual strangulation horrified Victorian readers, and who were put down through the efforts of Major

General Sir William Sleeman. But we also learn that one village in the heart of Thug country renamed itself Sleemanbad in gratitude, and that as recently as 1989 that was still its name. Hankin tells us the origin of pariah an outcast group of drummers in the south - but also describes the parishkite, "the bazaar-scavenging raptor and scourge of New Delhi's winter garden luncheon parties".

Hankin has mined a fabulously rich seam. He tells us about the origins of chit, loofah, bungalow and kedgeree. He takes us through such miseries of the subcontinent as the "brainfever bird", the hawk cuckoo "whose loud screaming call, said by the British to be 'brain-fever, brain-fever' is repeated all day ... during the hot weather", and the bandicoot, the "large and destructive rat ... almost a metre in length, which can get through a brick wall", and "doolally" from the place above Bombay where "those due for repatriation on medical grounds awaited the troopship", and which became British soldier slang for insanity. But he also gives us nice words: cushy, for example, from the words: cushy, for example, from the Urdu khush, meaning "happy", rumble tumble (scrambled eggs) and simkin (Indian servants' pronunciation of "champagne").

Long residence here has left Hankin not jaded but scrupulously fair he even has a good word for the

fair: he even has a good word for the pi-dogs that skulk around this country: "if cared for, loyal, hardy and

excellent as a watch-dog."
In every respect. Hanklyn-Janklyn is the essential companion for a griffin ("a newly arrived European unused to the ways of the East"). Hankin also conducts fascinating tours around Delhi, but if you can't enjoy one of

those, the book is a good second best. The only thing wrong with the book, in fact, is that it is published by Banyan Books in Delhi - a problem for potential readers in Britain. But it is even more of a problem for Hankin himself, who says that he has not received a statement or a single paise ("the smallest unit of today's currency") in royalties from the company for the second edition

(published 1994, and now sold out). Picey ("mean, miserly") is the only word for this behaviour. Since a bandh ("total shut-down of work") is probably out of the question, a gherao ("the coercion of an official by so encircling his office with a cordon of workers that he is unable to leave") is probably in order. Unfortunately there are not enough British people left in Delhi to carry it out.

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Eight killed as rockets bombard **S** Lebanon

Beirut - It was the bloodiest day since the Israeli massacre at Qana 16 months ago: a young man and his sister blown apart by a bomb - almost certainly left by the Hizbollah - and then, within two hours, the shelling and slaughter of six civilians and the wounding of another 44 in Lebanon's second city of Sidon by members of Israel's proxy "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) miliproxy South Lebanon Army (SLA) mutia. By nightfall vesterday – after promises of revenge from the Hizbollah's south Lebanon commander – Katyusha rockets were exploding across the "capital" of Israel's occupation zone in Marayoun and in the mountain town of Jezzinc, where another civilian was reported killed.

The Israelis hastily but vainly tried to shrug off responsibility for the Sidon killings, claiming that their troops were not involved in the artillery bombardment of the city. The mortar shells that crashed onto the busy aftermoon shopping streets, however, were fired by the SLA, which is commanded, paid, uniformed and armed by the Israelis. That the militia's discipline long ago crumbled does not - as the Lebanese were pointing out last night - absolve Israel of responsibility for the SLAs actions. The shells they directed at Sidon were proximity rounds, designed to cause amputation wounds, and were of the same type as those fired into the refugees at Qana by the Israeli army last year.

There was ample reason to expect SLA retaliation yesterday. The couple killed ear-lier - 16-year old Jean Nasr and his 12-year old sister - were the children of a senior SLA officer, Assad Nasr, who was himself blown up this year by the Hizbollah in Jezzine. Although the roadside bomb had probably been planted days ago, the Hizbollah were almost certainly responsible.

Visiting the wards of three hospitals in Sidon where at least 36 civilians were being treated for wounds, Sheikh Nabil Qaouk, the Hizbollah's commander in southern Lebanon, made it all too clear what would follow the Sidon deaths. "Either we have security on both sides or we have none," he said angrily. "The resistance will not be

Robert Fisk on Hizbollah's war with Israel's proxy army

silent and its response will be harsh and painful." A few minutes later, Katyusha rock-ets began falling on Marayoun and Jezzine. At least 10 explosions in the former city sent dozens of Lebanese Christian civilians fleeing their homes to seek shelter with Norwegian soldiers of the nearby United Nations peace-keeping battalion.

And so, after the briefest of ceasefires, southern Lebanon was yesterday again on the edge of open war. The live-power truce committee, which met last week to condemn both Israel and the Hizbollah for recent ceasefire violations, is already collapsing amid increasing acrimony. At its latest meeting, General David Tzir, the Israeli delegate proposed General David Tzir, the Israeli delegate proposed General David Tzir. egate, approached General Adnan Balloul, the Syrian representative, with a suggestion that the United States and French delegates to the committee should be ignored in resolving further problems. General Balloul exploded in anger and threatened to walk out of the committee - a step only avoided after Dennis Ross, President Bill Clinton's senior Middle East negotiator. apparently pleaded with Mr Balloul on the telephone to remain in his seat.

The SLA has been suffering increasing reverses over the past six months. Up to onethird of its militia have deserted to the Beirut government or to the Hizbollah guerrilla movement while its existing ranks are packed with informers. In some military positions, the SLA are even forwarned to leave their fortresses by the Hizbollah - so that only Israeli occupation troops should fall victim to mortar attacks. The SLA's actions yesterday, however, are going to draw the Israelis back into the war since no one, least of all the Hizbollah, is going to believe that the Israelis



Bloody revenge: A man and his mother running to escape the shelling of Sidon by Israel's proxy South Lebanon Army yesterday. At least eight shells hit the city, killing six people and wounding 44 Photograph: Mohamed Zatari/AP

Netanyahu releases withheld tax revenue

Eric Silver Jerusalem

Having resisted the stick of Israeli sanctions for three weeks, the Palestinians were unappeased yesterday by a first chunk of carrot tossed their way by Benjamin Netanyahu. The Israeli Prime Minister announced that his Government was releasing 30 per cent of the tax revenues withheld from Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority since the 30 July suicide bombing which killed 14 Israeli civilians in a Jerusalem mar-ket. The ban on up to 100,000 Palestinian day labourers crossing to Israel

remains in force, however.

Israel collects about \$500m a year in VAT income and other taxes on Mr Arafat's behalf. This covers about 55 per cent of his budget for the two mil-lion Arabs of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. An Israeli statement said yes-terday's decision was reached following the Palestinians "partial" co-operation in investigating the bombing and their swift arrest of three car thieves who murdered an Israeli taxi driver last week. The Palestinians have also given Israel samples from a Hamas bomb factory uncovered near Jerusalem. Israeli forensic scientists are now checking whether the explosives were the same as those used in the market

Hanan Ashrawi, a Palestinian Cab-inet Minister, accused Mr Netanyahu of continuing to behave like an occu-pying power. "We are still demanding the release of all the funds and an end to the closure," she said. "These are Palestinian funds. They cannot use our money as a means of intimidation and

The Israelis insist, however, that the threat of terrorism leaves them with no choice. "We have to fight terror," Moshe Fogel, a government spokesman, said. "We expect the same of the Palestinian authority. At the first sign of co-operation, we have responded in kind."

The Israeli insurance industry is waiting, meanwhile, to see whether co-operation in combating the crossborder trade in stolen cars will continue. The Insurance Agents' Association reported yesterday that 21,448 cars were stolen in the last six months, a 29 per cent increase on 1996. The Association's executive director, Moshe Ben-Eliezer, estimates that thieves will have taken 45,000 vehicles by the year-end.

Yeltsin ready to negotiate **Chechen autonomy**

Chechen leader Aslan Maskhadov said yesterday that he was pleased with talks with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and said he had high hopes of negotiating formal independence for his breakaway republic.

"Today I saw in Boris Nikolayevich a man who is really aware of the need to solve the problems of the last 400 years," Mr Maskhadov said. Russian news agencies earlier quoted Mr Yeltsin as saying he was ready to negotiate a long-term political deal with Chechnya, suggesting widereaching autonomy along the lines of that granted in 1994 to Tatarstan, a mainly Moslem republic, like Chechnya, on the Volga River in central Russia. Reuters - Moscow

Armed gangs attack in Freetown

Clashes broke out between civilians and hundreds of former rebel fighters who armed themselves with machetes, grenades and automatic rifles to prevent a march in the Sierra Leone capital by opponents of a May coup. Civilians fied to escape the gangs who now call themselves the People's Army and work alongside junta soldiers and police. There were no immediate reports of casualties, but many people were beaten, kicked and thrown into military vehicles.

False Algerian police kill family

A group of armed men disguised as policemen set up a false roadblock, then killed a family of seven in western Algeria. No one claimed responsibility for the attack near Oran, but it bore the hallmarks of Islamic militants. Witnesses said the killers had put a note on the chest of one of the victims, warning of "new acts of punishment against the impious ones.

Cambodia's king says he'll stay

Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk said he had decided not to abdicate, but also vowed not to return to the political arena in his troubled nation. "After having weighed the pros and cons for many nights, I decide to remain as king for some time longer, he said. Opponents of Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, who seized power last month, had called Reuters - Peking for Sihanouk to abdicate.

Kenya death toll rises to 35

The hodies of two Kenyan policemen were found in a hospital mortuary south of Mombasa, raising the death toll to at least 35 since last Wednesday, hospital sources said. The Kenya Tourist Board said no foreign tourists had been involved in the violence.

Vietnamese jail rebel soldier

A former South Vietnamese soldier who continued to A former south vietnamese soldier who continued to fight the Communists long after the fall of Saigon in 1975 has been sentenced to 10 years in prison. The People's Court in Vung Tau sentenced Nguyen Long Si, arrested last September, for "committing activities aimed at overthrowing the People's government".

Dresses are everyone's right

Men should be able to dress as women and walk the streets of the Australian state of Tasmania without fear of arrest, according to a review of the island's 60-year-old police laws. The Tasmanian law reform review has also recommended unhindered operation for fortune tellers recommended unannocied operation for fortune teners and beggars. But throwing nightsoil into a river or injuring a homing pigeon will remain offences. Routers — Sydney

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international

Arms sales shoot to record high

America takes the lion's share of \$32 billion market

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

The global arms market got bigger last year and the United States remained the top international weapons exporter. selling more than Britain and Russia combined, the two countries which vie for second place. But some experts believe the increase in the size of the market was a "blip", rather than a reversal of the trend, which has been steadily downwards. The British Defence Export Services Organisation (DESO) predicts the world market will continue to decline by about 15 per cent through to 2000.

The news that the US remains the leader, by far, in global arms exports comes as its



Robin Cook: Wants a more ethical arms export policy

Congress prepares to finalise a new code of conduct on arms exports . The code will determine which countries are eligible to receive US military assistance and arms transfers. The President will have to provide Congress with a list of countries which meet required standards of democracy and human rights, which participate in the UN register of conventional arms and are not engaged in acts of armed ag-gression. In Britain Robin Cook the Foreign Secretary, recal" arms export policy and France has written to European tries that year.

Union defence and foreign ministers encouraging them to follow Britain's lead. But critics of the arms trade remain sceptical, believing that national interest will always override ethical considerations.

According to the latest report by the US Congressional Research Service last week, global arms sales totalled \$31.8bn (£19.8bn), out of which sales to developing countries totalled

The US sold \$11.3bn worth of armaments during 1996, compared with Britain's \$4.8bn and Russia's \$4.6 bn. Of the US sales, \$7.3bn worth - 64 per cent went to developing countries. Of these, the biggest customers were India, which bought \$2.5bn worth of arms last year, Saudi Arabia with \$1.9bn, South Korea with \$1.2bn and Indonesia with \$1 bn. There has been widespread concern about human rights in all these countries - particularly Saudi Arabia and Indonesia.

Andy McLean, of the Saferworld project, which monitors the international arms trade. said "with domestic [defence] procurement budgets decreasing, pressures are increasing to export weapons to unscrupulous regimes. There is an urgent need for effective international controls to overcome this problem and help ensure that the effects of weapons are considered above short-term commercial interests."

Mr McLean thought the apparent increase in the global market was a "blip". He said: The CRS focuses on export agreements and not deliveries. The former figure is always higher because not everything agreed gets delivered."

Russia managed higher sales than the US to developing countries in 1995, but Richard Grimmett, who wrote the report, said this also seemed to have been a blip because Russia happened to have concludwith some developing coun-



Taking aim: The US is the world's biggest arms exporter but a new code of conduct may limit sales to certain nations ermment claims that defence regional balance of power.

Boom: Asia's tiger economies are armed to the teeth

The fastest growing markets for arms are in East Asia and on the Pacific Rim, where military spending is increasing on a par with the dynamic economies of the region. The next largest increases in military spending are in Latin America and Africa, which are increasing slightly. The Middle East is expected to remain the largest arms importing region - in particular Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia, although overall exports to the region are expected to decrease, writes Christopher Bellamy.

A country's military budget is the best indicator of its investment in military power much more so than the size of navies, armies and air forces. This is because the smart money nowadays is on small but well-equipped forces, and large but ill-equipped and ill-trained forces are considered more of a liability than an asset in modern warfare - as Iraq discovered in the Gulf War.

The defence budgets of the "Tiger economies" of Asia and the Pacific have been rising by about 10 per cent per year. Their dynamic economies have enabled them to buy weapons from abroad and they are also keen to develop their own military industries.

In the long term, this will limit the scope for exporting arms to the Pacific Rim and East Asia. In the mid-term, it will increase the scope for technology transfer deals, but eventually these will help to develop the indigenous arms industries and eventually the scope for these, too, will diminish.

Japan has shown the most dramatic increase in defence spending in the region and now spends more on defence than any other country in the world apart from the US and possibly Russia, In 1995, Japan spent \$56bn on defence - an increase of one-fifth over the previous year - compared with \$37bn for France and \$34bn for the UK. na and Brazil are all expected Although the Japanese gov- to try to compete to preserve the

spending is no more than 1 per cent of gross domestic product , many analysts believe the "defence" budget excludes items which would be classified as military expenditure under Nato

Other countries showing a dramatic increase in military spending are China and the five strongest Asian economies -South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand. The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies forecasts that all these countries will see a growth in their defence budgets of 6 to 10 per cent per year - well in excess of global economic growth

In 1995, South Korea's mil-

Market forces Top sellers: US £7bn, UK £3bn,

Top buyers (developing India £1.57bn, Saudi Arabia £1.2bn, S Korea £750m, Indonesia £630m

Russia £2.9bn

itary budget increased from \$13.3bn to \$14.4bn - an 8 per cent rise. Singapore's budget increased by over 20 per cent, from \$3.1bn to \$4bn, and Indonesia's from \$2.3bn to \$2.6bn up 13 per cent. For comparison, India and Pakistan, which dominate central and South Asia, and both possess highly professional armed forces and are regarded as standing on the 'nuclear threshold", have military budgets growing at about 6 per cent each year.

The markets in Latin America and Africa are expected to expand slightly. However, the US has recently ended its former ban on the export of high technology arms sales to Latin America and this could spark a new arms race. Chile, Argenti-

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Military hardware that translates into hard cash

The biggest earnings from international arms sales still come from big, expensive pleces of equipment sold by big, national arms companies with government support - combat aircraft which

change hands for up to \$40m, ships which can cost \$200m, and \$1m for a tank. The biggest arms purchasers among the developing countries, like Saudi Arabia, which spent \$2.5bn last year, tend to buy this type of hardware. Chile is planning to buy \$400m worth of F-16 jet fighters (right) from the US this year.

for example. And with orders like this come valuable packages of training and support. Because developing countries have difficulty paying for such equipment, national governments

AFRICA.

need to under-write loans taken out by the companies selling the equipment, as the DTI's Export Credit Guarantee Department does for British firms. However, systems like this are subject



to export controls. Insurgent armies want light, portable and simple weapons like rifles, mortars and rocket launchers. These are subject to weaker export controls and are easily smuggled.

A small operator might find it easier to make money by brokening. The Mil-Tec scandal, which broke in November last year, involved a British firm organising the supply of arms to the former Rwan-

> dan government. Arms were moved from Israel and Albania via Zalre to Rwanda. Though the deal was organised from the Isle of Man, it was not subject to British export controls.

"Force multipliers" are another profitable area for a smaller operator. The Croatian victory over the Kraiina Serbs in 1995 was aided by

tactical radios, medical supplies and field rations, all largely exempt from controls. As International sanctions Inse, smaller entrepreneurs are likely to switch to this type of trade.

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David Allford

In an age when famous architects become superstars, it is easy to forget that media personalities are unreliable indicators of architectural abilities. David Allford was not a media personality – although a leading architectural journalist remembers him "growling splendidly into the microphone" in a recent radio broadcast when they were both panellists - yet most people in this country have probably experienced a building where his hand can be detected. Among them are Gatwick Airport, several large hospitals including St Thomas' in London and Hull Royal Infirmary, numerous comprehensive schools and offices, Warwick University and Cole Brothers department store in his home town of Sheffield.

The Welfare State posed new problems for architects. Mass housing, hospitals where healthcare was a right rather than a luxury or a charitable gift, comprehensive schools, new universities and novel building types like airports were all un-familiar territory. Each demanded a new image, just as much as they needed new patterns of organisation. Allford's achievement as an architect was to identify strands in modernist architecture whose forms lent themselves to new functions and to sophisticated and inno-

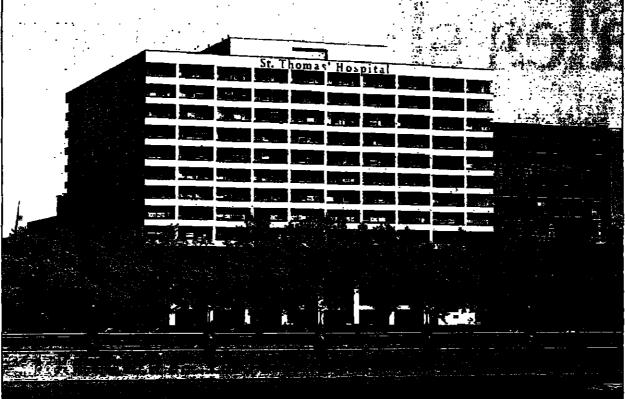
vative aesthetic expression. Like many architects of his generation, Allford was introduced to the clean, white forms of modern architecture, and its Utopian promise of a better society, through F.R.S. Yorke's book The Modern House, first published in 1934. When he graduated from Sheffield University in 1952, he found a job

eight years earlier with the brilliant though lugubrious Czech émigré Eugene Rosenberg and the sunnier-natured Anglo-Finn Cyril Sjostrom Mardall. Yorke himself had been a member of the architectural avant-garde try pursuits and breeding prize-winning cattle.

Allford remained all his career at Yorke, Rosenberg and Mardall. or YRM, as the firm was later known, becoming a partner in 1958, senior partner in 1975 and chairman on its flotation in 1987. He retired on his 62nd birthday two years later. Initially working within the

three distinct paths set out by the firm's founders, Allford soon started to introduce crisp rational forms derived from the American work of Mies van der Rohe. These were published in England in the early 1950s and offered younger architects an alternative model to the freer "people's detailing" idiom of the Festival of Britain. In adding a new dimension to the work of YRM, Aliford found common cause with another young architect who joined the firm shortly after he did and who also stayed for his whole career, Bryan Henderson. They gradually synthesised the disparate elements of the firm, refining its design sources and ideas and developing its operational methods. As a result it became a powerful corporate force in the

world of architecture. One morning, after a heated argument about some aspect of Gatwick's design with Yorke, Allford was called into his employer's office. He knew, he recalled later, that he was either in the firm Yorke had founded going to be sacked or offered a many firms to seek work abroad, pastiche.



partnership. Yorke, fortunately, was a shrewd judge of char-acter and valued Allford as a friend and drinking companion, as well as an architect. Several years later, after Yorke's pre-mature death in 1962, Allford and Henderson, by then also a partner, went to Finland to seek out the legendary architect Alvar Aalto, who was a friend of Yorke's for similar reasons. To their surprise, they found another English architect there, not a drinker and calling Aal-to "lieber meister". Aalto intimated that he could hardly get drunk in front of someone who addressed him as Frank Lloyd Wright had addressed his mentor Louis Sullivan. It took their combined ingenuity to dispatch

the unwarranted intruder. The 1970s and 1980s saw rapid swings in architects' fortunes. The oil crisis caused

especially in the Middle East, while the boom of the 1980s led to a deterioration of design standards. YRM responded to both challenges by strengthen-ing their core principles. Their work in the Middle East, such as Sultan Qaboos University in Oman, responded to the desert climate without resorting to pastiche - and helped them to win a Queen's Award for Export Achievement, while their offices of the 1980s were as refined as they had ever been, as the firm's own offices on Britton Street in Clerkenwell - simple, restrained, minimal modernism - demonstrated. One of Allford's last designs was a competition entry for the Grand Buildings site in Trafalgar Square. It came second, and he was disappointed that the winner replicated the undistinguished 19th-century

facade. Allford always disliked

A long career, prodigious memory and sense of fun made Aliford a great raconteur, a skill he shared all the more readily when it accompanied food, wine and cigars. Unlike many architects of his calibre, he had many interests and friends outside his profession - of whom one, Alistair McAlpine, claims some credit for his conversion from socialism to capitalism. That in itself was often a starting point for sharply characterised reminiscence, of the absurdities of student politics in the 1940s or local government

behaviour of the 1960s. He owned some fine paintings, including one by Le Corier which gave him great pleasure. In conversation he could refer to film, French literature which he had studied as a subsidiary subject at university, or just gossip; he enjoyed discussing architecture, but not

so much as discussing sport. Even his beloved Sheffield Wednesday, which he support-ed from childhood, though, took second place to his wife Beryl and four children. The death of the eldest, Jane, last year upset him deeply. Fortified by the remaining family circle, his friends and his own intellectual resources, he was beginning to come to terms with it when he died suddenly, the day after he had beartily enjoyed himself at the wedding of one of his son's friends.

David Allford, architect: born Sheffield 12 July 1927; Partner, Yorke, Rosenberg and Mardall (later YRM pic) 1958-75, Joint Serior Partner 1975-87. Chairman 1987-89; CBE 1984; married Beryl Roebuck (one son, two daughters and one daughter deceased); died London 10 August 1997.

Bernard Wheeler Robinson

With the death of Bernard Wheeler Robinson amateur music-making has lost one of its most loved father figures. His greatest achievement was Music Camp, a powerhouse of amateur music-making whose output could eclipse all but the largest of music festivals. It began in 1927 when a

group of Cambridge friends took a musical holiday together, hiring a small village hall at Poynders End near Hitchin in Hernfordshire and camping in a nearby field with borrowed tents and kitchen equipment. From these beginnings things just grew. In 1935 Music Camp acquired its first permanent base at Bothampstead, in Berk-shire, by which time the pattern of two nine-day music camps each year was already estab-lished, dented only by the Second World War years. In 1963 Robinson and fami-

ly moved to Pigotts, Eric Gill's former house, on the beech-ringed top of a hill near High Wycombe. Music Camp moved there three years later, to find not only space to expand, but af-ter 1976 the possibility of indoor accommodation for smaller parties, making weekend events feasible in all but the depths of the Chilterns winter. Sooner or later you or I would have grown at best uncomfortable at invasion on such a scale: Robinson

never did. As Music Camp expanded, Robinson delegated more and more of the organising, until by the mid-1980s it could function effectively without him. But his spirit remained everywhere, and the ethos was the one he had deliberately fostered. The musicmaking was paramount: those who attended were expected to make it their first priority. Conditions were kept basic, not to say Spartan, which had two marvellous effects: stressing the music and sense of communing with friends; and encouraging the young and, more impor-

tantly, young in spirit.
All work was to be shared equally, not just chores like washing up, scrubbing and cleaning, but even carpentry and brick-laying; this fostered a sense of belonging rarely found in such a large musical organisation. It is a testimony to the family spirit of Music Camp that there are so many second and even third-generation Campers. And the spirit goes on the 132nd Camp takes place at the

end of this month. Robinson managed to bring the best out of almost anyone: what an event looked like, or sounded like, wasn't nearly so important as what you brought to it and what you got out of it. The philosophy paid off. When Music Camp began, playing even the symphonies of Beethoven was an adventure; by the time Robinson was taking a back seat in the 1980s Campers were mounting their own Ring cycle and tackling scores like Messiaen's Turangalila and Chronochromie.

Robinson was committed to amateur music-making and indignant that what he described as "the mainstay of music, the vehicle of its existence, historically and financially, the medium in which it develops" got so little attention. With typical resolve he set out to survey this unquantifiably vast area, pro-ducing in 1985 his idiosyncrat-

ic book, An Amateur in Music. He was the son of the distinguished Baptist theologian Henry Wheeler Robinson, but his own unquenchable search for truth and endearingly childlike curiosity drew him not to

religion, but via mathematics to physics – new, challenging and exciting. After university (Trin-ity College, Cambridge), he stayed in Cambridge, working in the 1920s on Ernest Ruther-ford a team of the Cambridge ford's team at the Cavendish Laboratory, and then spent nine years under Sir William Bragg at the Davy-Faraday Laboratory of the Royal Institution on X-ray crystallography. in the late 1930s Robinson was se-nior lecturer at the Military Col-

lege of Science at Woolwich.

During the Second World War he spent three years at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, followed by two years at the Ministry of Aircraft Production. After the war he designed medical equipment at the Medical Research Council's laboratory in Hampstead for three years before moving in 1949 to the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington, where he was Superintendent of the Applied Physics Division until his retirement in 1964. The surface appearance of



anyone or anything held little in the way of interest or distraction for him: he was interested solely in substance. This, combined with his personal modesty and total lack of ceremony, won him many devoted friends. It also informed everything he did. In his violin-playing, for instance, he acquired just enough technique to get him through the literature and to penetrate directly to the heart and mind of some of the greatest music ever written. It was the same with whatever he put his hand to. Many friends received gifts of recycled joinery, assembled with ingenuity, imagination, care and almost no regard for final appearance.

In 1933 Robinson married Alice Dodds, a gifted musician and pianist. Some eighteen months after her death in 1958 he married the cellist Elizabeth Orloff-Davidoff, a daughter of Lord Howard de Walden. Robinson had a somewhat oldfashioned attitude to women, treating them with courtly respect rather than as equals, though any that demonstrated practical or organisational abilities was quickly accorded the status of an honorary man.

It was not so much failing health that marred his final years as the increasing deafness which began to cut him off from the companionship of friends and from the music he had done so much to foster. And, inevitably, came the losses of many dear and close friends from the early days of Camp. But there were compensations; in his eighties came the grandchildren who, literally, gave him a new lease of life.

Bernard Wheeler Robinson, physicist and musician: born 6 June 1904: married 1933 Alice Dodds (died 1958; one son), 1960 Elizabeth Orloff-Davidoff (died 1976); died Speen, Bucking-hamshire 7 July 1997.

Ruth Dyson

Ruth Dyson was one of the few pianists of her generation who many of which were first permany kept in touch right up to turned to the harpsichord at a formances of works by contime when, despite the efforts of pioneers like Arnold Dolmetsch, it was still regarded as "quaint" by the establishment. She was not only a fine performer on piano, harpsichord, clavichord and virginals, but also a distinguished professor, adudicator, lecturer and author.

Dyson studied piano with the legendary Kathleen Long at the Royal College of Music and it was on hearing her teacher play baroque music on the piano that she became interested in the music of that period. She then discovered the fine collection of early keyboard instruments at the RCM which further inspired her interest. Eventually she bought her own Gobie harpsichord and gave her first Wigmore recital on that instrument in 1941.

During the Second World War, she did auxiliary nursing under the Red Cross, taught music to evacuee children and made endless tours giving concerts in factories, military camps

and hospitals. After the war she continued her career as both pianist and harpsichordist. She played piano concertos with most of the main orchestras in the UK and gave frequent solo recitals on both instruments. She also undertook many European tours sponsored by the British Coun- a Fellowship in 1980 and retired cil and made regular broadcasts in 1987 after 23 years of service.

temporary composers for the early keyboard instruments. She also made numerous recordings for the BBC Archives on instruments from famous collections which included the Victoria and Albert

Collection. In the late Forties Dyson was involved for some time with the Leith Hill Festival and valued the friendship of its founder, Ralph Vaughan Williams. For some time she served as the festival's librarian and would recall the occasion when Vaughan Williams telephoned her to ask about some of the Haydn oratorios, adding: "Don't forget we're meeting at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning when we're going to rub out the

Creation! Dyson returned to the RCM in 1964 to take up professorships in both harpsichord and piano and a lectureship in the history of early keyboard instruments. It was during this time that she took her students to visit the famous collections of early keyboard instruments and so inspired them to take up the study of baroque music for themselves; among those who are now firmly established in the field are Melvyn Tan. Sophie Yates, Robert Woolley and many others. She was awarded

many kept in touch right up to the present. Dyson's lecturing activities

also extended abroad where she lectured in French at the World Forum of Harpsichord in Paris and in German to the Telemann Society in Hamburg. She also represented the UK as Museum and the Colt Clavier adjudicator at the International Fortnight at Bruges. She contributed articles to a number of learned journals and to the 1979 edition of The Oxford Companion to Music. As a soloist she made a num-

ber of recordings which included Herbert Howells works for the clavichord to celebrate the composer's 90th birthday. She also made recordings with the bass singer and harpsi-chordist Peter Medhurst with whom she shared a happy musical partnership for the last 20 years; these included an album of Schubert songs recorded at the Colt Clavier Collection. One of their most recent recordings For Two To Play was of all the double harpsichord works up to the time of Mozart when the harpsichord was superseded by the piano. Medhurst told me: "She was my mentor and it was such a joy to work with her. She was so spontaneous and a brilliant keyboard player, and she had such rhythmic point. Whatever instrument she played - great mu-

sic came out. She was married to the military historian Edward mate, witty and informative



Spontaneous and scholarly: Dyson playing on a 20th-century Gobie harpsichord in the early 1970s

Thomas, nephew of the poet of the same name who was killed in the First World War. She loved travelling with her husband as he revisited many of the places abroad where he was in military intelligence, including Thailand in 1995, the last journey they made together. He died in 1996.

Dyson appeared for many years in the Haslemere Festival of Early Músic, and its Musical Director, Jeanne Dolmetsch, recalled attending her 80th birth-day party in March this year: She was in sparkling form. She will be remembered for intilectures, her wonderful ac- suffered a fatal heart attack afcompanying and her skill in improvisation. She was my musical mother!"

As a person she was charming, unaffected and modest despite the fact that she had an incredibly scholarly mind. She was also generous towards other artists - a rare quality among musicians. In recent years she taught

regularly at the Dolmetsch Summer School, and confessed it was one of her favourite undertakings because clearly she had a special empathy with the young. It was here, on the last died Guildford, Surrey afternoon of the course, that she August 1997.

cadence. That is how she would have wanted it." Margaret Campbell Barbara Ruth Dyson, keyboard player and teacher: born London 28 March 1917: married 1964 Edward Thomas (died 1996;

one step-son, one step-daughter);

ter a wonderful week in which

she had been full of her usual

enthusiasm. As Jeanne Dol-

metsch put it: "Ruth Dyson's life

was rather like a piece of mu-

sic which bubbles over with ex-

citement and ends in a perfect

Gordon Legg



Portuguese East Africa (now Mozambique) was severely underdeveloped in the 1930s and held firmly under colonial rule. The South Africa General Mis-sion (now the Africa Evangelical Fellowship) had waited for years for the opportunity to have missionary workers there. When Gordon Legg, then in his twenties, saw an article in its house magazine, outlining a plan for six single missionaries to enter the country, he wrote an application that same day.

Henry Gordon Legg was born in Derly in 1912, the younger son of a railway clerk. He was educated at Bemrose Secondary

merce before being apprenticed at 15 to a Derby clothier. At 20, he joined the men's outfitting department of D.H. Evans in London, rising to become First Salesman. With an instinctively courteous manner, he was well suited to this métier. But his life's work was to be far removed from men's outfitting.

After two years at the Missionary Training Colony in Up-per Norwood, London, Legg spent some months in Portugal. picking up courses in language and culture at the ancient University of Coimbra. With rudimentary knowledge of both, he sailed to Africa in 1939 aboard the RMS Warwick Castle. His aunt had been appointed MBE for her service in Swaziland and he stayed with her when he first arrived, learning some practicalities of bush life. Her living-room floor was covered with a film of fresh cow dung to keep fleas at bay. The choice was his, she said, but most Europeans preferred the smell to the bites. Legg was stationed in but were shortly afterwards visited by a government official who

Mihecani, in the Zambezia Province of Mozambique. He built up a school of 600 pupils, with a health clinic attach which was run by his second wife. Katie. (His first wife, Mary, died of cerebral malaria after only two years of marriage, in eral Director of the Africa mitory accommodation and with

Protestant mission, with its evangelical teaching. In the late 1950s the sudden death of a child moved to Berkshire, England. There were massive adjustin the clinic gave a pretext for them to put pressure on the government to close the station down. The Leggs heard of the death while on furlough in the UK, and rushed straight back,

pelled from Mozambique. In 1961 Legg moved to Johannesburg as Assistant Gen-

gave them 24 hours to vacate the

whole compound. They were ex-

1944.) Portuguese Roman Catholic priests had long re-sented the influence of the Evangelical Fellowship, be-coming its General Director in 1969. He was the last to hold this post in Johannesburg before the international headquarters

> ments for the Leggs to make, from the bush to the city, from a mission compound to an office, from front-line service to international leadership. Ever with an eye to the needs of others, Legg developed the work among the thousands of men who poured south to the gold mines which formed a crescent between Johannesburg and Klerksdorp. Although well cared for in dor-

himself, 1987; the Soviet news agency

adequate food, these men struggled with life in such alien surroundings, and inter-tribal fighting was not uncommon. Legg toured the mines and, with permission from their European managers, distributed Christian literature to the workers.

Retiring to Redbourne, no St Albans, in Hertfordshire, Legg never lost his love for the Mozambique church. His dealings with Africans had always been marked by respect and integrity, never bearing a trace of the patronising attitudes so pervasive then among Europeans. This was evidently acknowledged, for Christian leaders and civic leaders alike

greeted him with great warmth when he visited the country again in 1982. By this stage the church there was already ten times the size it had been when he was expelled. On a return visit in 1993, when he was 81, he describes how, on his arrival in Nampula, "more than 5,000 lined the road approaching the church and about 2,000 were inside and outside for nearly three hours". **Robin Wells**

Henry Gordon Legg, missionary: born Derby 12 January 1912: married 1942 Mary Jenks (died 1944). 1949 Katie Allen; died Harpenden, Hertfordshire 15 Augusi 1997.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

FERGUSSON: Dr Patrick Drummond on 18 August, in London, aged 78. Beloved father of Jamie, Madeline Park Crescent, on Thursday 21 Au-

MARTIN: Professor John Powell. On 17 August, aged 71, peacefully at home. Dearest husband of Joan Higgins, loving and proud father of An-

drew. Lawrence and Stuart and de-voted granded of Azulca and Quillian. voted grandad of Azutea and Onnitan.
Funeral service will be held at Norcliffe Chapel, Styal, on Tuesday 26
August at 2.15pm, followed by committal at Manchester Crematonum.
Family flowers only, donations if desired for Amnesty International or RNLI may be sent to Arthur Gresty Ltd (Trafford Funeral Homes), Grey-stones, 305 Manchester Road, Al-trincham, WA14 5PH.

School and the School of Com-

ncements for Gazette BIRTHS Announcement for Gazzie Six in S.
MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births,
Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in
Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor. The Independen 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 5DL, telephoped to 0171-293 charged at \$6.50 a line (VAT extra).

Birthdays

Commandant Daphne Blundell, for-mer director, Women's Royal Naval Service, 81: Mr Gordon Brand Jnr. golfer, 39; Sir Malcolm Hilbery Chaplin, senior partner, Hilbery Chaplin, 58: Mr Bill Clinton, President of the United States, 51: Lord Cocks of Hartcliffe, former MP, 68; Mr Kenneth Dixon, former chairma Rowntree plc, 68; Mr Charles Driver, Master of Wellington College, 58; Sir Francis Ferris, High Court judge, 65; Mr Ian Gould, cricketer. 40; Dame Rose Heilbron, former High Court judge, 83; Mr Edmund Heward, former Chief Master of the Supreme Court, 85; Sir David Hop-wood, Professor of Genetics, University of East Anglia, 64; Mr

Stephen Hughes, MEP, 45; Mr Richard Ingrams, Editor, The Oldic, 60; Mr Billy J. Kramer, singer, 54; Mr

Bernard Levin, journalist and writer, 69; Mr David Lodge, actor, 76; The Right Rev Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishon of Rochester, 48: Mr Michael Roper, former Keeper of Public Records, 65; Miss fill St John, actress, 57; Mr Willie Shoemaker, jockey, 66; Mrs Phyllida Stewart-Roberts, former superintendent-in-chief, St John Am-bulance Brigade, 64; Mr John Mark Taylor MP, 56; Mr Georg von Mallinckrodt, chairman and chief executive, Schroders Inc, 67; Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir James Watt, S3; Mr Michael Woodhouse, former chairman, Rexam. 70; Mr Henry Wyndham, chairman, Sotheby's, 44.

Anniversaries

Births: James Crichton ("The Admirable Crichton"), scholar, 1560; Johannes Fyt, painter, 1609; John Flamsteed, first Astronomer Royal, 1646; Samuel Richardson, novelist, baptised 1689; Marie-Jeanne Bécu, Comiesse du Barry, royal mistress, 1743; Orville Wright, aviator, 1871; Gabrielle (Coco) Chanel, fashion de-signer, 1883; Frederic Ogden Nash, norist, 1902. Deaths: Augustus, first Roman emperor, 14; Frans Sny-ders, painter, 1657, Blaise Pascal, the-ologian and mathematician, 1662; es Watt, engineer, 1819; Richard Burdon Haldane, first Viscount Haldane, statesman, 1928; Sergei Paviovich Diaghilev, ballet director and choreographer, 1929; Sir Nigel

Ross Playfair, actor and manager, TASS announced that the vice-1934; Federico García Lorca, poet president, Gennady Yanayev, had taken over the presidency of the Soand playwright, 1936; Sir Henry Joseph Wood, conductor, 1944; viet Union "because of the ill-health Julius ("Groucho") Marx, como 1977; Alastair Sim, actor, 1976; Hermione Baddeley, actress, 1986; Sir Frederick Ashton, choreographer, 1988. On this day: Mary, Queen of Scots returned to Scotland from France, 1561; France and Spain formed an alliance against Britain, 1796; British forces were driven out of Somaliland, 1940; Lt-Gen Bernard Montgomery became commander of the British Eighth Army in North tus III and St Thecla.

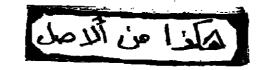
of Mikhail Gorbachev", 1991; a state emergency was declared and troops surrounded important buildings, in-cinding the Russian parliament building, in Moscow, 1991. Today is the Feast Day of Saints Agapius and Tim-othy, St Andrew the Tribune, St Bertulf of Bobbio, St Credan of Evesham, St John Endes, St Louis of Anjou, St Mocha, St Sebald, St Six-

Africa, 1942; Michael Ryan, a 27-Lectures year-old marksman, killed 14 people in Hungerford, Berkshire, and finally Tate Gallery: Andrew Kennedy, "Late 18th-century British Portrai-

ture: Reynolds, Gainsborough and Zoffany*, lpm_ National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Babies (iii): attributed to De Bel-lis, The Finding of Moses", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Sudeshna Guha, "Mughal India". 2.30pm. British Museum: John Muir, "Hermione': an introduction to Greek education*, 1.1pm

Changing of the Guard The Ring's Troop Royal Horse Artillery mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am: Ist Bettalion The Royal Regiment of Wales mounts the Queen's Guard, at Backlingham Palece, 11 Mam, band provided by the Coldstrong Guard.

ad provided by the Coldstream Guards





The Russian mission to make do and mend

o those who despair that science does not get enough attention in them get back to a well-earned shower the media, and that it has lost its attraction for those not directly involved, we would say only one word: Mir. Mention the orbiting Russian space station, and people who normally profess disdain for physics or chemistry will talk eagerly about zero-gravity toilets (especially those that get blocked, as Mir's did), fires in space (another unfortunate little incident), how you actually dock two orbiting spacecraft, and what it must be like to be stuck in a cold, cramped washing machine of a place in a chaotic orbit because - as happened yesterday - the main computer has crashed.

Bernard

Wheeler Robinson

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general form

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Mir has become an orbiting episode of The Simpsons, a byword for getting it wrong in space. Small wonder that the British-American astronaut Michael Foale asked for the Russian relief crew to bring 100 tablets of Tylenol painkillers when they flew up last week. By contrast, the US space agency Nasa piles triumph upon triumph. Life on Mars! Pathfinder on Mars! Sojourner rover on Mars! Picture-postcard sunrise on Mars! Meanwhile, last November the Russian mission to Mars wobbled off the launchpad and then crashed in the Pacific. Altogether the US, together with Japan and Europe, make a better fist of making things that work in space. So why not just pack the astro-

and proper food, and send Mir off into outer space, or slip back into the atmosphere to burn up?

One reason is that Mir represents something very important to post-Soviet Russia. It was meant to last only five years, but has been up there, twirling past 280 kilometres above our heads, once every 90 minutes or so for 12 years. It's an important link to a time when Russian engineers and scientists could challenge the world on many fronts - a claim they are unlikely to make now, unless it is as the country best able to make limousines bulletproof for clients involved in shady dealings.

Equally, Russians need Mir and its veritable awfulness. It is a reminder that it is not just the man or woman in the Moscow street who is having a tough time of it; even the highlytrained cosmonauts have to make do and mend. The soap opera in which the players can't use soap (water stocks are dwindling) and can't play music (the power has been cut by computer failure) holds a grim fascination. It's like watching England's cricket team trying to save a game against Australia. Actually, they do better than the England team: on the whole, the cosmonauts muddle through, adopting a combin-ation of the sealing-wax-and-twine approach, and the Russian equivalent



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of the stiff upper lip. Heath Robinson would be proud of them.

All that aside, Mir does in fact have a political and economic value to Russia. The US and Japan are serious about building a full-scale orbiting space station called Freedom, on which construction work is intended to begin some time in the next two years. Canada and Europe are also involved; and Russia wants to play its part, too. It won't quite look like the enormous ferris wheel of Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A Space Odyssey, but it will sprawl over an area as big as two football fields. The plan suggests that Space Station Free-

dom will cost more than \$20bn £12.5bn), and possibly as much again in servicing and operating costs over its expected 15-year life span.

No single nation can pay that bill. The US Congress has repeatedly balked at elements of the cost, leading to a PR offensive by Nasa of which the "Life on Mars" meteorite may be seen as an element. Certainly, Nasa's wellchoreographed successes have helped secure its share of funding for the space station, which will be important for medical and other research (including high-cost, private-sector experiments) as well as scientific experiments.

So, the US is happy to cough up; Japan can pay its way; Europe and Canada, with some protest, will foot their share of the final demand. But where can Russia, with its awful currency and economic problems, find the hard cash to buy a piece of Freedom? It cannot afford to be left out. But the truth is, it cannot afford to be included, either - at least, not paying with real money. Russia cannot afford to build and launch a new space station; so, until Freedom is built, it offers a useful place to hire out to private groups and research organisations which want to do their own small-scale experiments. Unfortunately, the crash with a supply ship holed exactly the module which was being used for scientific experiments on some plants and beetles another blow to Russian prestige, and its bank balance, not to mention the effect on the beetles.

What is the point of Mir, then? To the Russians, it is that they can show off - no, honestly - their make-do approach to space. Whereas the Americans practise their space missions "to the point of neurosis" (to quote one Russian controller last week), the Russians know that it is impossible to prepare for everything. All you can really take up there is a state of mind like a Boy Scout: be prepared. The missions on a space station will long be unpredictable, and all sorts of things will go wrong. Mir is just the beginning. It may Nothing good ever came of that.

look from here as if the best thing for Mir would be to send it spinning off into the hinterland of space, never to be seen or heard of again (unless, perhaps, by some baffled extraterrestrials, circa Stardate 1448569306780943). But for the Russians, there is as much to lose by failing as there is by going on. Which tells the whole story, when you come down to it.

Must do better at telling the truth

To, school inspectors are unable to Dwrite reports. They rely heavily on preprogrammed phrases which mean next to nothing - clichés of their own and their predecessors' creation. Are we surprised by this? Of course not. Every profession develops its own elaborate ways of avoiding offence to people. Telling the raw truth is, particularly for bureaucrats, more than a soul can bear. Therefore you find ways around it - by saying nothing, you say every-thing. By declining to congratulate, you condemn utterly. The problem with this is that it never works in the end. People would prefer unvarnished reality. They might get angry, they might even have a case. But if the judge's real view isn't there, what can they do? Just stew.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Stupid drug law makes folly a crime

Sir: On 12 August I wrote, in relation to the jailing of my son James, about the persecution of our children by the justice system. Well we've done it again ("Woman, 22 jailed for giving friend ecstasy", 16 August).

Two girls went to a nightclub. One gave the other one ecstasy pill which she consumed with amphetamines and alcohol. She suffered a severe reaction and nearly died. The supplying girl was prosecuted; the consuming girl was not. The judge said supplying ecstasy had to be punished sev and sent her to prison for nine months. The justice system has missed

the point again; what caused the dangerous reaction was the combination of alcohol. amphetamines and eestasy taken by very silly girls having fun.

Only nine people died last year from reactions to ecstasy. Forty thousand people died from the effects of alcohol.

None the less, once again the justice system picks out one vulnerable and foolish person who falls into its lap, and then sets about bullying her with a stupid and bigoted law, believing somehow the rest of us will be deterred.

When are we going to grow up and stop confusing youthful folly with crime? MICK HUMPHREYS Taunton, Somerset

Sir: May I congratulate Brian Iddon, MP for Bolton South East, who has bravely called for a Royal Commission on drugs, after the shooting of a five-year-old boy in

Bolton Mr Iddon has clearly seen the truth - that prohibition of drugs is a failure.

When a marketable substance is made illegal, it simply creates opportunities for massive illegal profits and everything which goes alongside the protection of such businesses. Greed for extra profit also means that the drugs can be cut with substances often more dangerous than the drugs themselves, causing unnecessary illness and death amongst users. This is particularly true for cannabis - the impurities are almost certainly more dangerous

than the plant itself. However, decriminalisation, although better than nothing - it would enable users of hard drugs to seek help without fear of arrest -would not solve all the problems. It would leave the supply of drugs

in the hands of criminals. The answer to the drugs problem is full legalisation. This does not mean that hard drugs would be available at the corner shop. Rather it would mean that pure hard drugs would be available through controlled outlets - such as doctors' prescriptions and chemists. Drug distribution would be controlled and the addicts recognised. The fall in cost to users would decrease crime and knock the illegal suppliers out of the market. Addicts and dealers would have no reason to create new addicts to finance their own habits. JACK GIRLING Chairman, Campaign to Legalise Cannahis International Association

Sir: Over many years of professional involvement in the substance abuse field, my colleagues and I came to much the same conclusion as those described



by P J Stewart (letter, 13 August). The fact is that society has available to it a range of psychoactive drugs, all of which are potentially harmful and many of which are perceived by their users as beneficial. Experience on a massive scale, both here and especially in the US, shows that prohibition doesn't work and generates much crime and other social ills.

The solution could be to allow "tolerated" substances to be sold at low-profile outlets without promotion and with appropriate health information.

It is said that no government could move towards decriminalisation, because to do so would imply diluting the health warning. If alcohol, which can legitimately occupy a prominent place in this list, were included, it would show a wish to approach this difficult and ancient problem in an unbiased and logical way. This process will not eliminate all drug damage in society, but it could greatly minimise it. Chinlehampton, Devon

Aloof BFI needs Alan Parker

Sir: Is Colin McArthur really surprised that nobody has made a fuss about Alan Parker's appointment to the British Film Institute ("Warning: beware a narrow focus on the wide screen". 15 August)?

In truth, the average cinemagoer, and indeed the average "intellectual" probably couldn't care less. Relatively few people have heard of the BFI and even

fewer have any idea what it actually | better than comics aimed at "postdoes. It doesn't help that the BFI has spent periods of the past 20 older, richer admirers. years indulging a penchant for rarefied, academic debate which has tended to overshadow the

organisation's more pragmatic achievements. Alan Parker may or may not be an anti-intellectual xenophobe: this is a matter of opinion. But if he can open up a rather aloof organisation to public scrutiny and promote it to a wider audience then perhaps the BFI will end up being as popular as Alan Parker's films have been with

Tide of hedonism swamps gays too

British audiences.

JOHN DUNN

London NWI

Sir: Your leading article (15 August) lamenting the narcissistic obsessions of the men's magazine market is spot-on. This trend is also reflected in the gay male press. where, since the demise of Capital Gay, political debate is practically a no-go area. What we now have on offer is

Attitude, which, with its penchant for designer gear lifestyles and washboard chests, is little more than a paean to some mythical Apollonian ideal. Even the former champion of gay political causes. Gay Times, seems to have moved downmarket, in a bid to capture the 'post-politics" metropolitan, hedonistic consumer. And the freebjes, such as Boyz, are little

political" boy-babes and their

MUSICAL CHAIRS

The common denominator between FHM and the above magazines is that they are aimed at single and well-heeled young men, both gay and straight. Meanwhile, dehates over the age of consent, workplace discrimination, the relationship between poverty and gay prostitution, and the prevalence of queerbashing, continue to be swept under the gay press carpet.

Applause that spoils the Proms

Dr ALAN BULLION

Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Sir: Michael Varcoe-Cocks (letter, 14 August) defends the right of enthusiastic but inexperienced concert-goers to applaud between movements.

The enthusiasm shown by Proms audiences is commendable. However, is it unreasonable to hope that, as well as learning about the music, they will also learn some of the conventions of behaviour which help to prevent distraction and spoil the enjoyment of others? Untimely applause can be just as irritating as rustling sweet papers and beeping digital watches.
I can remember a Proms

performance of Weber's "Invitation to the Dance" a few years ago where part of the audience fell into the trap of bursting into applause at the climax

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e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

of the main waitz theme without waiting for the quiet epilogue to be played; this undoubtedly showed enthusiasm but spoiled the

performance for everyone else.

In case I am accused of élitism at the expense of new concert audiences, I should point out that regular attenders who should know better can be even more inconsiderate. I am thinking in particular of the person dubbed by the Promenaders "The Man with" the Clap" who applauds loudly and shouts "Bravo" a microsecond after the final bar to show off how well he knows the piece. Fortunately he

was missing at this season's performance of "Das Lied von der Erde" when the audience waited in stunned silence for what seemed like an age and only then broke into rapturous applause. GORDON ELLIOT London EI

Gandhi dressed

Sir: Gandhi's obsession with handspun clothes was more than a personal fad ("Saga of Mahatma memorial", 15 August). Indian hand-woven textiles were renowned and exported to all parts of the world until the Manchester cotton industry swamped the Indian market with cheap. manufactured goods in the mid-

19th century. Thus, a return to hand-woven textiles was at the heart of the early "Swadeshi" independence

for protest

given the world? It is one thing to win the spoils of war, quite another to remove the cultural heritage of a nation suffering the oppression and humiliation of occupation. Surely now, with the advent of a

London W2

so-called "moral foreign policy", it is time for us to swiftly return these marbles, putting to rest the whole sorry affair, and in doing so, be the cause of national celebration in Greece, thus further increasing her respect for us as a natural friend and ally. JULIAN McSWEENEY

movement, when bonfires of

English cloth were gestures of defiance. Gandhi, with his usual

perspicacity, took up this theme and made the spinning wheel the

Time to give back

Sir: I have recently returned from a

short trip to Greece, where I found

the local people wonderfully

hospitable and friendly, despite being sincerely aggrieved by the failure of successive British

governments to return the ancient

marbles taken from the Acropolis

a special case for the return of

these treasured relics to their

rightful owners - the people of

While we know that modern

Hellenic, do we not still owe them a

debt of gratitude for all they have

Greece and its people are long

removed from the ancient

I do not see why we cannot make

symbol of non-violent revolt.

DIANA TROY

by Lord Elgin.

Merthyr Cynog, Powys

the marbles

Blind to comph on South Bank

Sir: Sir Brian Corby's letter of 16 August defended Lord Rogers' South Bank proposals against Robert Maxwell's attack (Letters 13 August) by quoting Sir Leslie Martin's approval of the shielding his Royal Festival Hall will receive from those later monsters next door. But that is not enough.

Maxwell's negativism illustrates

the seizure the Brits suffer when anything bright appears. Pettyfogging uit-picking killed Mies van der Rohe's Mansion House tower, Zaha Hadid's Welsh National Opera House, Santiago Calatrava's east London bridge and Sir Norman Foster's scintillating skyscraper, grey academia blindin us to oomph.

Wary of ceiled-in external space. I like wind in my hair and singing in the rain. Yet if the young want controlled atmospheres – like the jet-lagged Pacific fish they prefer to tasty British - Rogers will achieve

this with glorious pazazz. Sir Brian's South Bank Board should meet Rogers' spirit and find ways of stretching his flowing ribbon of glass all the way to County Hall with a taller "Hokusai" breaking wave masking the ugly boot of the Shell building. Glittering and in scale with Father Thames himself, what a glamorous heart-tingler from the Embankment!

Balance a wide wooden deck, the sky its roof, *above* the trains on Hungerford Bridge and, over the moon, everyone would dance across the river, making love under the stars. Professor PATRICK HODGKINSON

Victims of child pornography

Sir: In today's Independent (18 August), both Richard Ingrams and Gien Newey express sympathy for the schoolteacher who killed himself after being charged with possessing child pornography. Because he was not actually interfering with these children, neither man seems to find his crime

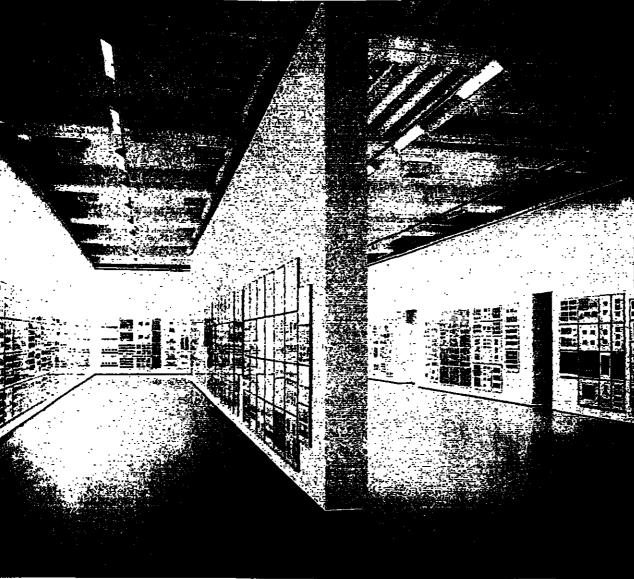
anything to get upset about. Where do these two believe the children come from who are exploited for the creation of such pomography? Are they so lacking in empathy for anyone except their own kind - middle-aged, middleclass men - that they cannot imagine the fear and shame these boys feel? I don't know if Glen Newey has young male grandchildren, but I know Mr Ingrams does. If at some future date his little darlings are used in such a way to gratify dirty old men, I hope he can continue to practise what he preaches. JULIE BURCHILL Brighton, East Sussex

Leader in waiting

Sir: Andrew Bluhm (letter, 16 August) explains the "rudeness and cheating" of some restaurants in France by their taking on "large numbers of French students" in the summer. I have not in 20-odd years of living in tourist centres in France met rudeness or cheating. Nor have I met any but rarely changing orofessional staff, often pretty cold, brisk and correct on a first visit, but usually very friendly over the years.

Is he thinking of President Chirac? As a student, he did work in a restaurant - in the US. Few French restaurants would have accepted him as serious. JOHN LIVINGSTONE Biarritz, France

What is it about avantgarde art that so excites the Germans? This year's Dokumenta extravaganza has much to enjoy, but don't expect to understand it, says Matthew Collings



It may be anti-art, but they're all mad for it

so much. We hate it over here, of course, but over there they're mad for it. All over the place there are Kunsthallen and Kunstvereine full of the stuff. There are loads of huge private collections of it, tons of swanky new brilliantly designed multicoloured post-modernist public museums devoted to it, stacks of big annual art fairs selling it, and a horde of sexy, international superstar German artists who since the Sixties or Fifties - or indeed any time after the Second World War - have risen to massive, Oasis-type fame, based on the nation's craving for art that nobody can understand.

The biggest, best, most expensively produced and least comprehensible-by-normal-people international artfest is the five-yearly Dokumenta, held in the otherwise un-noteworthy town of Kassel, an hour or so's very high-speed German train ride from the nearest airport at Hanover. This year's Dokumenta cost £7m to stage. The money comes partly from taxpayers and partly from private sponsorship. That's a lot of Turner Prizes.

As usual, a guest curator has thought up a theme and selected the artists to take part: 250 of them, from all over the world. They range from thundering giants of the genre such as Ger-many's Gerhard Richter, an art superstar since the Sixties, to bright newcomers on the international avant-garde radar, such as scuiptor

strange thing about German people is the way they like avant-garde art Siobhan Hapaska and installation/conceptual artist Liam Gillick, both London-based, both Goldsmiths College graduates.

This year's curator, the 42-year-old Parisian Catherine David, who used to organise exhibitions at the Pompidou Centre, has been having a great time over the past few months staging international press conferences and saying nothing that anybody could understand beyond hinting strongly that her Dokumenta would be anti-commercial, anti-galleries, anti-trendy and anti-American. When the Dokumenta finally opened in July, it turned out that the show, at least in its line-up, really is more or less against trendiness, or at least indifferent to it.

Lots of the artists exhibiting are not at the buzzingest end of international contemporary art, nor are they represented by powerful gal-leries. Many of them have almost unpronounceable names and do not come from Germany, New York, London, or even eastern Europe. Also, many of the well-known partici-pants are far less trendy now than they have been in the past: Richard Hamilton and Art & Language, for example.

Indeed, these two - or three, since Art & Language is a group of two - seemed to be making a comment in their works at Dokumenta about the value of the past. Richard Hamilton showed a multi-part installation that included the German Renaissance artist Albrecht Dürer's famously enigmatic engraving Melancholy (a classical female figure gloomily contemplating some cosmic symbols), as well as a group of his own new ultra-perfectionist oil paintings of mys-terious modern interiors. These included veiled references not only to Hamilton's own Pop Art. past, but also to the art of the all-time master of mysterious interiors, Johannes Vermeer.

Hamilton also showed a shiny new cubeshaped metal machine thing that could make little cloudbursts. This work seemed like a sigh for the good old days when technology was universally loved for being a good thing both for society and for art. Interviewed by a group of journalists on the morning of the opening. Hamilton said that he was glad to be associated with the first conceptual artist, Marcel Duchamp, but sad that today's version of conceptual art was, in his view, generally too much on the "silly"

rt & Language showed a group of objects called "furniture paintings" - chairs and tables made out of small, brightly coloured paintings, each one imprinted with a photocopy image of pages from their own texts inquiries into the meaning of art - which they've been publishing since the Sixties. A further extension of their work was a performance, staged each evening, involving handsome, classically trained German actors lip-synching to a recording of a conversation between the two Art & Language members and one of their colleagues, the art writer Charles Harrison. The props for this performance were the actual paintspattered tables and chairs and old paint pots from the duo's studio in Banbury, near Oxford, specially shipped in for the event. This was a weird but certainly compelling pile-up of illusion and reality, with some genuine discourse hiding in there somewhere.

On the morning of the opening, Catherine David gave her last press conference, reaffirming her anti-isms and announcing also that the Dokumenta was more or less about the big problems of modern urban intellectual, cultural and spiritual life, and the way all experience is mediated now through advertising and TV and suchlike, and that in this situation "art alone is not enough". And that's why a lot of the art in Dokumenta wouldn't be merely pleasurable or sensuous or beautiful, or in fact not pleasurable or sensuous or beautiful at all, but more like lots of videos and black-and-white documentary photos and film screens and stuff. And also, because of the Internet and the way everything is known about everything as soon as it happens nowadays - or even before it happens, even if it is in Africa - there would be a lot of interactive Internet-type art events put on by incredibly

It would be neat to join in with the widespread carping against the Dokumenta (too elitist, too obscure, too dry, too expensive), and say the really dreadful stuff was the art; but it wasn t. In fact, Dokumenta is a good thing. It began in 1955. The first one was mostly internationalstyle, post-Jackson-Pollock abstract painting. The ones since then have been accurate barometers of the way art is going, and this one, the 10th, is no exception. Art really is pretty strange and difficult nowadays. It's no one's fault, and it's good to be given a chance to look it over and wonder what's going to happen next. For example - as critics are now running around asking themselves - is painting dead again? It's been dead so many times this century; maybe it really has had enough by now.

The Dokumenta sprawls through several big buildings, across open fields and right into the town's centre, taking over parts of the subway and mainline railway station. Nobody could say it is an entirely pleasurable experience. There is frequently the feeling that a lot of exhausting head-scratching and frowning has to be done for not much reward. But even if there is not much actual painting to speak of, there are still plenty of things you can enjoy quite straightforwardly. Gerhard Richter's installation is like a peek

behind the scenes of this artist's official output. Entitled Atlas, it is a huge, eye-straining collection of thousands of the snapshots and news photographs he has used as source material for the coldly scientific paintings he has been turning out for the past 30 years. Just as a documentation of the oddness of everyday life and the way fashions in sideburns come and go, it's an experience. But a lot of the material is very touchingly studio-worn, grubby with paint marks and the remains of bits of masking tape, and, on the whole, there's a warmth and intimacy and curiosity-appeal to Atlas - for all its grand scale which is often lacking in Richter's finished

The Cologne artist Rosemane Trockl's House For Pigs and People - which she designed with

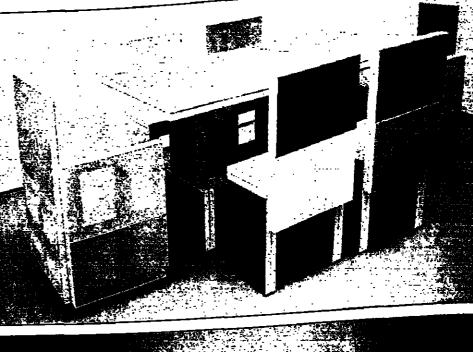
an architect collaborator, Carsten Hoeller - is literally a house for pigs, which people can view through a very large sheet of mirrored glass, so that the pigs, with their newly born piglets, can't

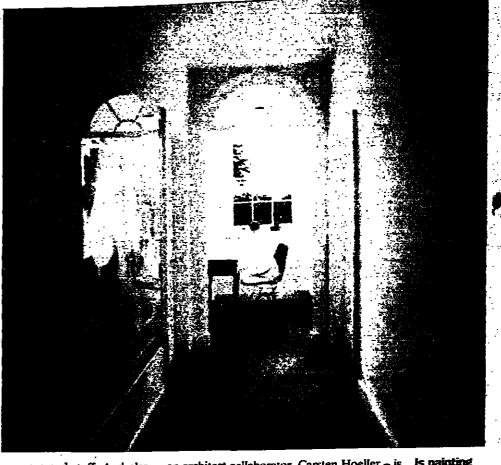
A sculpture by Martin Kippenberger, another Cologne artist (who died earlier this year, still in his mid-forties) appears in one of the fields outside the main Dokumenta site. As usual with this artist, the meaning is vague, or fluid, or something. A big white metal structure like the entrance to a European metro station with a padlocked gate, it is planted in green grass, as if it might lead down into the earth. It includes a kind of Brutalist, Fifties-style logo in the metalwork - a milky bosom and a hammer. Strange,

iobhan Hapaska, who was born in Ireland and moved to London from Belfast in the Eighties, has been given a whole, gallerysized space for three of her sculptures. They mix hi-tech forms with odd, dreamy atmospheres. suggestive of far-away places and sudden changes in temperature: desert, ocean, ice. A lot of this year's Dokumenta is about travel, or more precisely about how ideas of travel can be accessed by modern communications technology without anyone having to go anywhere. In many cases you get the idea pretty quickly - "Aha! Travel!" - but then wonder why it's being presented to you: "Er, so what?" Hapaska's art, which can sometimes seem inhumanly streamlined and mysterious (rather than mystifying), is positively romantic and mysterious (rather than mystifying) in this context.

And what about those videos? Yes, they tended to drone on boringly. But one of them was the most instantly pleasurable work in the show. Dial H-I-S-T-O-R-Y is a collage of clips, masterfully paced and edited by Johan Grimonprez, a Trinidad-born artist who lives in Ghent, Belgium. Made over a period of two years, it shows a fabulously jangled and fractured narrative about plane-hijacking in the Seventies and is an exercise in style - the styles of hijackers, of air hostesses, of hair, of guns, of political rhetoric, and of TV ads, stings and jingles. Strange, funny, kitsch, brilliant, labour-intensive and kind of pointless. But worth seeing.

'Dokumenta 10' runs to the end of September.





exhibition may give

ammunition **Exhibits** include Gerhard Richter's installation of photos

left), the group Art & paintings' (too right). and Richard Hamilton's Rooms –

Maschmann **Passage** courtesy of Anthony London

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And now, Elvis impersonations to die for

oday I am bringing you the conclusion of our exclusive interview with Jerry Bonaventura. Jerry Bonaventura is the American author who has just published Elvis Presley - The Posthumous Years, which is the first of Elvis's biographies to concentrate on what has happened to

Elvis's story since he died. Can you explain the rocketing popularity of Elvis lookalike contests? Especially as most of the contestants can have no idea - otuside film what Elvis looked like, being

too young to have seen him? Whoa there, whoa there! Let's take that all one at a time. First off, these are not lookalike contests. It isn't much use looking like Elvis if you can't also sound like him, and vice versa. There are guys out there who sound incredibly like Elvis but who are short and thin and

do, poor guys?
Well, they could take to hamburgers and pills and overeat till they expand and get fat and become like him. Wise guy, huh? No, the answer for them is to change

their voices a bit and become

Buddy Holly clones. Now, I

bespectacled. What can they

Presley's lifetime, only on his deathtime, but I am reasonably sure that there were very few Elvis Presley impersonators during his life, only after his death. What does this tell us? I don't know. What does it

It tells us that anyone who dared to imitate Elvis Presley in his lifetime would find himself sued for millions of dollars by Colonel Tom Parker. It also tells us that it was only when Elvis died that people really missed him. They missed him so much that they wanted to recreate his presence in any way they

could. Now, this never happened to any other singing star. Nobody has ever become a Frank Sinatra impersonator or organised a Frank Sinatra impersonator contest. Why not?

Because Frank Sinatra is still alive. Wise guy. But isn't it

remarkable that nobody ever went into the business of imitating Bing Crosby or Jimi Hendrix ... or John Lennon? Ah, John Lennon! Now there was a guy whose death sent shock-waves through the world! When John Lennon



Miles Kington

died, people felt a great man had gone. But they didn't start impersonating him. Why Too easy.

Wise guy. All I'm saying is that people impersonate Elvis and nobody else. People try to look like Marilyn Monroe, and they walk like John Wayne, and they talk like Humphrey Bogart, but it's only Elvis they sing and wiggle and try to BE like. The problem is: which Elvis Presley are they

going to be like? How do you mean? Well, Presley impersonators can imitate the young, slim, lovely Elvis. Or they can imitate the older, fatter, slightly debauched Elvis. Or - and this is where it gets tricky they can imitate Elvis as he would have been had he not

And how is that? Some Elvis impersonators think that Elvis would have been grey-haired and slim and serious in his sixties, something like Johnny Cash. Some people think he would be a fatty. Some think he would be a rather ridiculous ageing rocker on a motorised Zimmer frame. One impersonator I know thinks that at the age of 62 Elvis would have been a balding Japanese performer in black

Why would he think that? Because the impersonator I'm thinking of IS a balding Japanese singer in black leather. But then there are other spin-offs in the competitive Elvis field. There are Elvis diet-alike contests...

Diet-alike? What does that mean?

All the contestants have to cook and eat a meal from Elvis's repertoire in a certain time, without being sick.

When you said diet-alike contests, I thought you said "die-alike" for a moment!

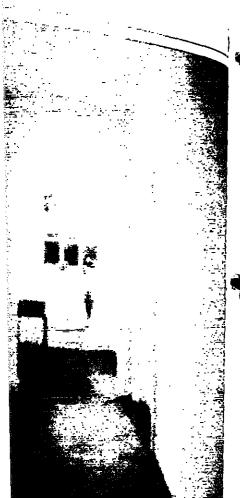
Well, it is rumoured that such things do exist, but if there ever was an Elvis Presley Die-Alike Contest, I never met anyone who had gone in for it. For obvious reasons. I guess. No, the new thing that's going on in the States is the rise of Elvis Impersonator Impersonation

Contests. What on earth are they? Well, some impersonators are so good in their own right that they have acquired their own following. They have put new twists to the King's stage presence, added new things of their own, so people are now imitating the people who imitate Elvis. An expert will be able to look at an Elvis act and tell you . which impersonator it is

based on. Incredible. Finally, Mr. Bonaventura, do you have any last words of advice for Presley fans?

Yeah. If you are going to get any one new book about Elvis Presley, kids, for heaven's sake make sure it's mine! Don't get anything written by a Jerry Bonaventura impersonator!

مكذا من الملصل



My name's Peter vote for me so I can be important

A first glance, it seems a strange sort of a battle-field, rather as if a victorious general had challenged his vanquished opponent to a duel while the dead were still being hauled away. Four years ago, of course, there would have been a wonderful, symbolic resonance to it - Peter Mandelson, the modernisers' Prince of Darkness, takes on Red Ken, firebrand of the old left, in a duel for the heart of the Labour

Party.
The Minister without Portfolio, long famed as Labour's spin-doctor-in-chief and archi-tect of Tony Blair's party reforms, is to stand for one of seven constituency seats on the ruling National Executive Committee. The withdrawal of both Gordon Brown and Jack Straw from this year's election had put Ken Livingstone. former Greater London Council leader and now Brent East MP, in pole position to win a place. So the two men, legend now has it, are locked head to head in the latest bitter struggle between

left and right.

Or maybe not. Maybe that battle was won long ago, the final seal stamped on its last treaty by Labour's landslide victory in the general election, the few last stragglers tolerated – or sometimes not – as relics of a bygone age. of a bygone age.

If there is one thing Tony Blair's bright, shiny tendency can say with certainty, it is that it has the upper hand. No sane person on the left believes the battle it now wages is an equal, or even seriously a winnable

one. If Labour's modernisers can abolish Clause IV, clinch a 95 per cent "yes" vote for their manifesto proposals, and top the lot by taking 418 scats at a general election, they

have little left to prove.

Then why is Peter Mandelson so determined to win an NEC seat that this August finds him campaigning frantically, while less energetic men sun themselves on beaches? The simplest explanation being advanced by

party officials is that someone simply had to stop Mr Livingstone. But this will not wash. Even with his presence added to that of Denstill be outnumbered by 22 to three on the executive. And anyway, a busy Minister without Portfolio with a millennium exhibition to run, a dozen other affairs of state to attend to and a somewhat patchy claim to party popularity is hardly the best man for the job.

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Even those closest to Mr Mandelson agree that the "scupper Ken" line does not draw the whole picture. The truth is that the minister wants more than anything to be what one friend described as "a big and important politician".

Although Labour's former director of communications has come far, there has never been a real test of his popularity in the party. Never having stood for any internal position, he has never been able to prove that party members really want what he has to offer. The key to this puzzle is a deep need for legitimacy.

Although Mr Mandelson's reputation is that of a revolutionary moderniser, his friends point out that he has deep roots within the Labour Party. He joined the party at 15; and his grandfather, Herbert Morrison, was deputy prime minister after Labour's 1945 landslide



Fran **Abrams**

Will it matter if Mandelson fails to get a seat on the NEC? To him, yes. But to the

> or the Labour Party?

Government

are unlikely to transfer neatly to Mr Livingstone, the Welsh min-ister Peter Hain is also standing and could expect to pick up quite a few of them. It is just possible that in the end it will be he, and not Red Ken, who will see off Peter Mandelson's challenge.

tainly are not.

the NEC should be seen not as

an aberration by a man whose

closeness to the Prime Minister

already gives him all the power he needs, but as part of a long,

sustained campaign to become a major political player.

this latest staging-post? It is very hard to tell. While tales of

his unpopularity abound - Mr Livingstone joked yesterday that his fellow MPs would stand

him more drinks than he had been bought in 10 years if he beat off his challenger - no one

knows what party members really think. And it is they who

will decide, by one member, one

Mr Mandelson is taking no chances - he has met more local party members since the

election than any minister - but that is in the nature of the

beast. One of the secrets of his

success is that he rarely leaves

anything to chance. The story of how he dropped into a fish and

chip shop to ask for a portion

of guacamole during the cam-paign for his Hartlepool seat may be apocryphal, but reports

that this metropolitan creature

was seen regularly on the ter-races at Hartlepool United cer-

His chances of success this

time are complicated by one more wild card. While Gordon

Brown's and Jack Straw's votes

Will he succeed in reaching

And will it matter if Mandelson loses? To him, certainly, although it will not have much effect on his position as a minister. No one puts himself up for such a public test of strength without fearing the humiliation of defeat. But to the Government? To the Labour Party?

Maybe Mr Mandelson will win this battle and will go on to be the "big and serious" politician that he so clearly wants to be. And maybe, in years to come, history will remembut as the man who rebuilt the NHS, sorted out the pensions mess or launched a British space programme. But for now, we have no evidence of this. What we do know is that Peter Mandelson is a very effective spindoctor. All the rest is personal ambition, pure and simple.

That is not exactly a criticism, of course No one gets anywhere in politics unless they are personally ambitious. But to suggest that there is some grand battle of principles going on here, that in some way New Labour needs this victory, is palpable nonsense. New Labour is already sated with victory, and some may wonder why the feeling has not spread as far as the office of the Minister Without Portfolio.

The portentous tone of the debate over what will happen in this election proves just one thing - that, as usual, Peter Mandelson is doing what he does best: spinning. Perhaps Labour's voters should ask themselves whether they would prefer him to do it for his party, for the Government, or just for

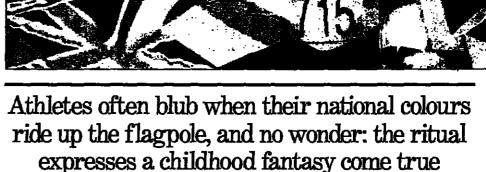
Keep the flag flying for our past glories by Robert Winder

t was obviously going to take something special to knock the Di and Dodi show off the front pages and, surprise surprise, it's sport wot's done it. Chris Smith's announcement that team games (such as cricket, football and rugby) would not be included in the Government's £100m academy of sporting excellence has raised some predictable hackles. Lord MacLaurin, chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board, reacted to the news swiftly, suggesting that cricket be taken off the list of BBCbroadcast national events and freed to go after the big money on offer from satellite television. Chris Smith reacted equally swiftly: he called the chairman's bluff and agreed to "talk about it". In the space of just a few hours, cricket's future as an important national event was in jeopardy. Hang on, Dodi, this'll have to wait -

we're needed on another line. Breast-beating about our sporting setbacks has long been one of the nation's favourite sports; it can almost claim to deserve some sort of lottery handout in its own right. And we are once more in a sporting slump - our athletes returned from Athens with a few silvers and bronzes, but no gold; and our cricketers have once again been humbled by Australia, a country with a population only a sixth the size of ours. If only, as Tony Banks declared at the weekend, dreamily proposing a ban on national flags and

anthems at sporting encoun-ters, it didn't matter. If only the less likeable aspects of jingoistic nationalism could be filtered out of sport, leaving it as a playground for international comradeship and fun. If only. It is easy enough to

sympathise with Banks's views: here have been plenty of times in the recent past when the Union Flag has seemed like nothing so much as gang insignia - it fitted right in with lies and ugly brawls. This is the coarse side to flag-waving, but there's also a fine and sentimental one. Athletes (and viewers) frequently blub when their national colours ride up the flagpole, and no wonder: it simultaneously focuses and expresses, through a simple ritual, the enormousness of their achievement (the best in the whole wide world - a childhood fantasy come true). And the flags are easily transferable. Emotional unionists, and even those who usually wave dragons and thistles, would have been moved by the spectacle of Welsh, Scottish and Irish heads shoved between English buttocks during the British Lions' triumphant tour of South Africa. And an against-the-odds victory in next month's Ryder Cup would do more for the image of



the European flag than any number of urgent polemics on the merits of currency union. More to the point, though, competition is - like it or not wired into the very concept of sport. Sportsmen and women begin by beating their schoolmates; then they beat other schools, then other clubs, then other towns. If they are good enough, they get picked for can take on the best in the

world. And in a significant symbolic sense they are ours, these sportsmen and women; they are the best we have to offer they are picked, as the saying goes, to "represent" their countries. Nothing could be more natural than that we should want them to put us in a good light. These are our best feet we are putting forward; inevitably we are dismayed if they turn out not to be as fast or skilful as we fondly thought they were.

International sport is, if anything, growing in importance as an emblematic encounter between various competing national prides, if only because it is such an easy thing to have in common, such an available international language. When Tony Banks remarked that all the flag-waving made sport

seem like "an extension of war", he was going too far; on the contrary, it is a harmless euphemism for war, an innocent way for countries that dislike one another (America and the Soviet Union, for instance) to settle their differences on a basketball court or in kayaks. Throughout history, flags and banners are what people have rallied round or united stereotypes are the basis of most jokes, so sport offers a showcase for caricatures that sway close, sometimes, to racism: thus Kenvans are all lungs and steely legs, Italians are all hot-tempered virtuosi, and we Brits are all beer-andpickle resolve. No amount of

But excellence, in Britain, has always been more highly esteemed if it seemed to have been achieved with some insouciance: we have, rather perversely, never much liked monomaniac grinders such as Nick Faldo, preferring happy-gohicky types such as Ian Botham, or cheerful losers such as Frank Bruno. This is why the whole idea of national academies seems vexing: it strikes us, espe-cially as it relates to athletics, as a little too anthoritarian, Total-

wishing is likely to change this.

itarian regimes have always liked athletics: the Russians, especially, could whisk 10-yearolds into hot-house programmes and turn out gold medal-winning gymnasts at the drop of a hat. There is another reason why the Government's proposal to make Olympic sports a priority has not been universally applauded. Put crudely, a big proportion of Britain's sports Olympic-type sports as sports. Or rather, they are sports, but not games. They are tediously statistical and quantifiable (bad for arguments in the pub); they're all about David Coleman crying, "And just listen to this ... forty seven point four - a new allcomers' European indoor best!" Only rarely do they generate the kind of national pick-me-up delivered by Britain's traditional pastimes - football, rugby, cricket, golf and even tennis. These days, if a British player gets back a couple of serves, it's

time to clear the back page.

To a certain extent it is ironic that a Labour government, even a New Labour government, should be giving priority to the most emphatically indi-vidualistic sport there is. But it clearly is part of any govern-ment's role to subsidise ailing interests, and athletics certainly seems to fit the bill, even if it is at the expense of "bigger" or more historic pursuits. And perhaps that, after all, is the nub of it. Not may countries are quite so ambitious in quite so many fields as we are. Brazilians have football, New

Zealanders have their All Blacks, but neither is so arrogant to believe that they can also produce world-beaters in we hanker after greatness in football, cricket, rugby, golf, tennis, athletic, boxing and motor sport - not to mention anything to do with boats or horses. Are we spreading ourselves too thinly? Probably. But perhaps we owe it to our past to do so. All of these sports are - more or less (athletics is Greek) - British gifts to the world, the most durable and popular legacy of our imperial adventures. It behoves us, in a way, to keep the flag flying, even if these days it is, more often than not, at half mast.

· Forget the politics, feel the quality of life

his being Ireland, we begin with a myth. There are more BMWs per head of population in Ulster than there are in the rest of the United Kingdom. Not true, said Yuile Magee. He should know. He's the managing director of The Bavarian Garage in Belfast, currently the UK's BMW Dealer of the Year.

"People are always saying it, but I've never seen figures to substantiate it." he said. Indeed, he doubts there could be any, for BMW's exclusive marketing technique is to look at the total number of cars sold in an area, decide that their market share should be 3 per cent, and then send the local dealer the determined number of cars. As a result, there is a waiting list until next Easter for the new Z3 roadster. It's a sales technique that the snave, blazered Yulle eloquently describes as: When the bar's closed everyone wants a drink". But it's a useful myth. Like all

myths, it survives because it has resonance. For it speaks of the extraordinarily high quality of life in the province, a fact that goes against the received view of Northern Ireland as a mean, violent, poor, heavily sub-sidised place. Such stereotypes are what keep the province's beautiful, white sand beaches and verdant glens so wonderfully free of tourists. But there is more to the good life in Northern Ireland than that. "Disposable income is high here," said Yuile. The schools are very good. So there's far less spent on private education, which saves an average middle-class family with three kids, say, £18,000 a year. "It has some of

the best - and least expensive - golf

courses in Europe. London-style

commuting is unknown: most people

are home in 15 minutes, so the child-

ren aren't in bed when you get back."

utes from the coast, so it's easy to go sailing," said Beth Robinson, a handsome woman in her thirties whose business has a reputation as the area's poshest estate agent. There is money for yachts, and for second homes on the North Antrim coast.

Beth's BMW was occupied elsewhere. So she borrowed somebody else's to take me to hunch. The new in" place was Deanes, a city-centre bistro with an extravagant mixture of décor - simple lines cluttered by Greek columns and urns - and a similar magnic eye for food. Recession never hit as hard because the boom was never as great," she began, dipping the hefty Tuscan bread into the first of the three kinds of oils coriander, garlic and chilli - which arrived unsolicited.

Ulster folk, she said, are cautious. They have less plastic debt. They never had a negative equity problem.
The average mortgage is about £55,000 and bouse prices rise steadily by 5 to 10 per cent a year. "It was surprising how quickly the first ceasefire affected the market. Within three months people were coming home. Sainsbury's decided to open. When they did, there were people queve-

ing up to get the trolleys."

Perversely, the Troubles had had a double-edged effect on the local economy. When Belfast was being bombed, the glaziers and builders bought the BMWs; when it wasn't, city-centre shopkeepers would buy. But in most respects the violence just hasn't touched the Ulster middle class. "We just see it on the TV like you do," said the nice woman from outside Ballymena, whom I had met on the boat train. For all that, middle-class weekend dinner parties studiously avoid the topics of politics

AJOURNEY AROUND THE WHOLE ISLAND OF GREAT BRITAIN



WITH PAUL VALLELY

and religion. "So many people who are urbane and apparently normal in every other respect," said Beth, "have such ridiculous views." The middle class eschew politics, to the extent that the area's most chic

eating place, Shanks Restaurant, half-an-hour's drive into the North Down countryside, closes at the height of the dread marching season. "Most of my customers go on holiday for a fortnight, to escape," said the chef/proprietor, Robbie Millar. But Shanks, too, shows the underside of the peace dividend. The

Troubles kept the multinationals out of Ulster, Yuile Magee had told me, but now the big boys were coming in.

A Hilton is being built to rival the empire of big hotels owned by a local family. The local supermarket chain, Stewarts, has been sold to Tesco. Before, the directors of those local firms bought BMWs from me,"

Yuile had said. But the conglomerates have their directors in London and local managers just get VWs or suchlike. "It's going to bring a much bigger change than the people of Northern Ireland realise. Money which once circulated in the province will now be sucked out to the head office in London."

The fracturing force of the new economic global reality was evident at Shanks, too. One of the directors from Stewarts was in that lunch time with his Tesco redundancy cheque, wondering whether he would be able to find another job. And the impact is wider. "Stewarts used local produce - even the herbs were local," said Robbie. "What will happen to local suppliers now?"

At mid-afternoon, in the bar, Robbie's wife, Shirley, was chatting to the woman from the local wine

while," he shouted across the room. "He doesn't entertain as much these days," the rep replied diplomatically.

They used to supply Stewarts,

too," Robbie whispered.
That evening Paul Rankin, the owner of Roscoff, the province's first Michelin-starred restaurant, where Robbie was once head chef, visited his protégé for dinner. Rankin, a tall, wild man with stubble goatee, long curly hair and grizzled features, was greeted with warmth by the besuited clientele, who were evidently regulars at Roscoff, too.

"This man's from The Indepen dent," he said, introducing me to one

chap.
"You must know my cousin, Cal McCrystal," he replie "Are you a cousin of Cal McCrys-

tal?" said another man, rising from his table. "So am I." The two men fell into intent conversation and I moved on. Northern Ireland, Beth had told me, was just one big family.

Rankin, who trained with the Roux Brothers, was at the wine list, choosing a bottle each of what turned out to be a formidable Californian chardonnsy and pinot noir. I mentioned Yuile's thesis to him. He was unfazed. "We have to develop out of the siege mentality," said the Ulsterman, "and shake the place out of mediocrity. We have to learn to compete not just with Northern Ire-

land, but with the whole UK." Tucking into smoked chicken with seared fole gras, calves' liver sauced with exquisite intensity, and a consummate mango cheesecake, it was not hard to concur. But whether the rest of the community would agree, one suspected, was a rather different



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business & city FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Soaring VAT payments help take the pressure off government debt as the threat of a bear market recedes

Tax surge boost for the public finances

Tom Stevenson Financial Editor

The highest level of VAT receipts since records began meant the public sector paid back much more of its borrowings last month than economists had expected. Gilts initially welcomed the news because the repayment will reduce the number of government bonds in issue but there were also worries that the figures painted a picture of an overheating economy that will require higher interest rates to

calm activity.
The £3.875bn repayment in
July compared with a £4.64bn deficit in June and a £1.84bn repayment a year ago. It meant the cumulative deficit after four months of the current fiscal year is running at little more than half last year's shortfall. The aggregate deficit of £4.367bn compares with last

There was good news on spending, with departmental outlays up by just 0.2 per cent year on year, suggesting that the straint seen in the second half of last year continues this time. But most of the good news came on the receipts side, with VAT receipts 32 per cent higher year on year, corporation tax up by 14 per cent and income tax 12 per cent higher, suggesting a limited impact from the introduction of self-assess ment for the self-employed.

. Although July is normally a favourable month for public sector finances due to large payments of both income and corporation tax, analysts said the number exceeded expectations by some margin. According to CIBC Wood Gundy, the strength was mainly associated spending during the summer as windfall payments.

He took a sanguine view of the implications of the figures, adding: "The main consideration for gilt investors should be demutualisations.

the improving trend in public finances. It is true that a large part of the falling PSBR is due to the economic cycle, but the latest figures suggest public spending is still subdued."

Jonathan Loynes at HSBC Markets also took heart from the data, which he described as "an excellent set of numbers, which confirm that the public finances are feeling the benefits of the recent acceleration

in activity."

He added: "After a disappointing first quarter to the financial year, the PSBR is back on track to meet or even undershoot the official fullyear forecast of £13bn."

Geoffrey Dicks, economist at NatWest Markets, also wel-comed the figures: "The strength of consumer spending is having a major impact on the cyclical component of the PSBR while public spending restraint is tackling the structur-al component. Although the markets were expecting a debt repayment this month, its scale has outweighed expectations."

Other economists were, however, less optimistic. Commerzbank economist Chris Barclay said he was surprised to see gilts responding positively to the numbers, given that the major concern for government bonds is how far interest rates may have to climb to quell in-

"Short sterling contracts are suggesting rates are set to peak at 7 or perhaps 7.25 per cent and there is a big risk that this is too optimistic," he added. Morgan Stanley economist Mark Miller agreed that strong corporation tax receipts and a record VAT contribution were economy may harden the monetary outlook for the UK and

with the pick-up in high street so have a negative impact". He warned that the VAT consumers took advantage of numbers suggest that retail sales data, due to be released tomorrow, could well be strong, boosted in part by the windfall bonuses from building society



Spending power: The strength of consumer demand is having a beneficial impact on the public sector borrowing requirement

Markets shrug off meltdown fears

Tom Stevenson

Stock markets on both sides of the Atlantic yesterday shrugged off the weekend's direst predictions of a sharp correction or worse following dramatic falls

The FTSE 100 closed 30.8 points lower at 4835.0, close to its high for the day, after Wall Street held its ground in early afternoon trading.

Both markets recorded their

biggest one-day falls since the 1987 crash at the end of last week, with the FTSE 100 also posting its biggest percentage fall for five years. But yesterday City analysts were dismissing comparisons with 10 years ago, citing strong institutional liq-uidity as a major support for

"My belief is that this is an aberration and if institutional investors take advantage of the correction to get back in, both US and domestic investors, we may see a strong end to the week" said Savvas Savouri, a strategist at Credit Lyonnais

Laing.
Other strategists agreed with

that sanguine outlook. Steve are just settling a bit. It's a small Wright at BZW said: "It doesn't seem like we are heading for the meltdowns of the past. Valuations look extreme but they are more justified than in 1987."

He added that big City investors currently had 5.5 per cent of their portfolios in cash, about twice the proportion in 1987. That, he said, was a very high cash balance given the fact that interest were close to peaking in the current cycle.

Robert Kerr at Nikko agreed with those sentiments: "I don't think this is the beginning of a lieved interest rates had reached bear market. The foundations a level consistent with its target

Argos, the catalogue retailer, issued a warning on consumer spending yesterday saying the cur- er half profits of £28.1m compared to £31.8m the rent bouyancy was not sustainable, writes Nigel Cope. Chief executive Mike Smith described the windfall factor, created by millions of building society customers enjoying large payouts, would run out of steam towards the end of the year as higher interest rates took their toll.

"If consumer confidence was there you would be seeing more liberal buying," Mr Smith said.
"But it is patchy and selective. It is our view that once people have spent what they want to of the windfalls they will not then dip into savings. We think there will be a slowdown."

of restraining inflation to 2.5 per

earthquake, no-one hurt." Following a period of under-He expressed the widely held performance compared with the FTSE 100's high-flying view that there remained good value in the market's second line and smaller stocks, which infinancial, oil and pharmaceutical stocks, second line industrial clude many companies that have suffered at the hands of the companies have bounced back soaring pound. On Friday, sharply in relative terms. many medium sized exporting companies actually saw their According to Robert Buck-land, UK strategist at HSBC James Capel: "We would say shares rise despite the fall in the

index of leading companies. stocks are starting to look interesting again, I don't see a bear market." He admitted, received a boost last week after the Bank of England said it behowever, that what happened in lieved interest rates had reached the US remained critical. Despite the calm, yet another

> Mr Snath was speaking as Argos amounced lowprevious year. Stripping out new store openings, sales are growing at 8 per cent in current trading

Sales of consumer electronics, furniture and small domestic appliances were strong, helped by building society windfalls. However, sales of DIY goods, gifts and toys were weaker. Argos said it hoped to benefit from the pro-

posals to ban recommended retail prices for electrical goods. The company has cut its prices in its current catalogue in an attempt to maintain its price differentials.

falling to 4,400 by the year end. Investment column, page 18

Capital Corp may sue rumour mongers

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Capital Corporation. troubled casinos group, said yesterday it was considering legal action against a group of people it claims have been spreading damaging accusa-

nons about the company.

The company went on the offensive after a steady stream of accusations, which have in-cluded allegations that Alan Hearn and Garry Nesbitt, the chief executive and former chairman, failed to inform the rest of the board about an offer for the group and that the board removed a profits warn-ing from its interim results last September.

The company said yester-day: "We recognise that there has been a concerted campaign by various undeclared parties to link activities, both factual and fanciful, of the past manage-ment to the present management team.

We are currently exploring the credentials and motivation of those who we suspect insti-gated the campaign and are de-termining whether it is in the company's best interests to take

sharp drop in the Dow Jones in-

dex or fears of monetary tight-

ening in the US or continental

Europe are expected to rattle

London investors, and some

warned that as much as a 10 per-

had gained 24 per cent this year

by the time it reached its all-time best of 5,095.3 on August 7.

Since then, it has lost 6.2 per

target and we don't expect it to

move a lot from here", said Ian

Scott, UK equity strategist at Lehman Brothers. Most other

strategists are also pencilling in

a year-end figure of around cur-

Richard Jettrey, head of re-

search at Charterhouse Tilney.

excess demand than the market

has realised. Interest rates will

have to go much higher as a re-

sult and base rates will get to 8

per cent before they peak." He forecast the FTSE 100 index

One exception to the generally sanguine outlook was

rent levels.

'We've got a 4,800 year-end

London's blue chip index

cent correction could ensue.

The company said the board was taking the issues seriously and that the current board was right for the company. Garry Nesbitt has stepped back from the chairman position but remains a non-executive director. Alan Hearn was appointed as chief executive last autumo.

The company admitted that investors must be concerned about recent developments but said it had received no calls from institutional investors in the

Analysts believe the Gaming Board, which regulates the casinos industry, will be forced to take a look at the company even though it endorsed the group's controls in the recent Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the £192m bid for Capital by London Club's International. The bid was blocked by the government on He said: "There is much greater competition grounds earlier

this month.

The Stock Exchange and the Department of Trade and Industry may also look at the group's affairs though both refused to comment yesterday on whether they will mount an Market report, page 19 | investigation.

RJB Mining seeks to calm fears of further pit closures

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

RJB Mining sought to head off fears of further imminent pit closures yesterday, after announcing plans to shut down Asfordby Mine in Leicestershire, the UK's most advanced pit.
Gordon McPhie, RJB fi-

nance director, said each of the remaining 15 pits had a separate business plan which could guarantee their future, at least until reserves were exhausted.

The company is currently negotiating new coal contracts with the three big coal-burning electricity generators, National Power, PowerGen and Eastern Group. The existing contracts, which guarantee RJB 30 million tonnes of coal for the generators, expire next April. So far contacts for just 3 million tonnes have been agreed, involving the Selby coalfield and the adjacent Drax power station complex.

Mr McPhie said the generating companies were unlikely to switch to buying much of their coal on the world spot markets, despite lower prices for imports. "It isn't going to happen. The generators burnt a total of 50 million tonnes of coal last year.

Mr McPhie.

clude until the end of this year. the swing supplier, is taking all the hits."

How are they going to get all that from the spot market?" said

RJB is thought to be pressing for an average price of £1.28 per gigajoule for its supplies, against around £1.20 suggested by the generators, a difference of about £4 a tonne. The talks are not likely to con-

David Price, from the industry journal Coal UK, said the position had worsened in recent months, with electricity burnt from coal down by some 25 per cent this year. "The market is declining rapidly and Budge, as

Shares in RJB fell 5p yesterday to 312.5p, compared with a 12 month peak of 565p, on the news that Asfordby was to close after suffering years of geological problems. The share price compares with the 320p offer price for shares in the 1994 rights issue, when RJB raised £385m to help fund the £815.3m purchase of British Coal's Eng-

Malcolm Edwards, the former British Coal commercial director whose company, Coal Investments, went into administration last year, claimed it was too late for the industry to secure the bulk of the remaining pits. "You've got to look to something cataclysmic to get a major sea change in public opinion. The time to act was in

1992 when 31 pits were closed." RJB anticipated the trouble with Asfordby early last year, when it wrote off £78m from the asset value of the pit. At the

time Richard Budge, RJB chief executive, said he was giving the site "one last go" to try to extract coal profitably.

British Coal originally envisaged production of 4.5 million tons a year from Asfordby, which would have a 25 year life and gradually replace the previous "super-pits" in the Selby complex. But the forecasts were lowered as the geological difficulties arose.

At the time of RJB's rights issue in 1994 the company showed the latest British Coal predictions of 2.7 million tons by 1999, an estimate later halved by RJB.

The pit made an operating loss of £16.3m in 1995, followed by further losses of £19.9m last vear. However this year it had broken even, though only by mining a much smaller face after work on the 250 metre long main face had been aban-

Safeway steps up store price battle

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Safeway yesterday raised the possibility of a fresh price battle between the big supermarkets when it announced a £20m price promotion designed to dispel its image as an expensive store. The announcement came as Sainsbury's revealed plans to open more branches through-out the night on Fridays to offer shoppers more flexibility.

Safeway's Price Protected Initiative guarantees lower prices on 650 of its best selling branded and own-label products. Customers who find one of their products on sale cheaper at Tesco, Sainsbury or Asda will be given another one free - or a full refund. But the offer only applies to stores within three miles of the Safeway branch and within seven

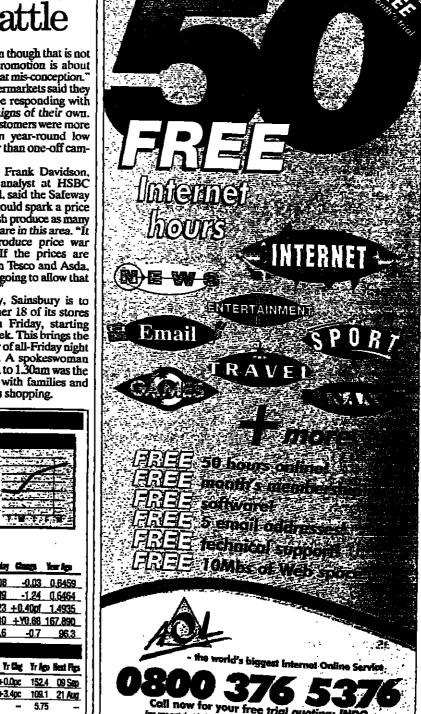
days of purchase. A Safeway spokeswoman said: "Some customers still perceive Safeway to be more expensive, even though that is not true. This promotion is about

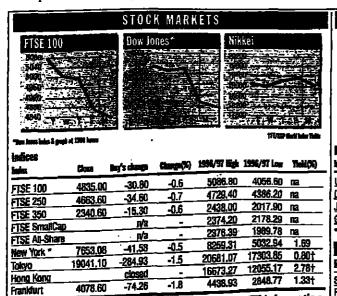
redressing that mis-conception." Rival supermarkets said they would not be responding with price campaigns of their own. Asda said customers were more interested in year-round low prices rather than one-off cam-

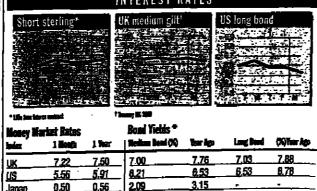
However, Frank Davidson food retail analyst at HSBC James Capel, said the Safeway promotion could spark a price battle on fresh produce as many of the offers are in this area, "It could be produce price war mark two. If the prices are cheaper than Tesco and Asda, they will not going to allow that

Separately, Sainsbury is to open a further 18 of its stores all night on Friday, starting from this week. This brings the total number of all-Friday night stores to 47. A spokeswoman said 10.30pm to 1.30am was the busiest time with families and shift workers shopping.

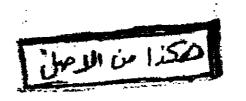
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COMMENT The real problem here has little to do with safety. As usual it is much more about commerce and the

fact that RUB's contracts with the electricity generators come to an end at the beginning

of next April '

Don't waste any tears over Asfordby, Minister

Once the great white hope of the British coal industry, Asfordby Mine in North East Leicestershire, is to close. A copy of a land I'll close more if you don't force the genconfidential memo on the matter, written by a senior civil servant for the benefit of John Bartle, the industry minister, has fallen into our hands. In the interests of open Government, we here reproduce it. Given the hurried nature of its preparation, it is un-

characteristically blunt. "I wouldn't waste any tears over Asfordby if I were you. To tell the truth, everyone knew all along it was a bit of dog; it was only ever built as a sop to the Union of Democratic Mineworkers, who demanded it as part of their price for supporting the Government during the Miners' strike. There were actually better sites available, but there you go. As you are no doubt learning, government is all about compromises.

"Actually it's turned out to be a rather higher price than any of us anticipated. Not that you should believe old Budgie's claim that because of adverse geological conditions, it has become impossible to make it safe. Volcanic sills - I ask you! More invest-ment on top of the £300m already spent would undoubtedly have done the trick.

"The real problem here has little to do with safety. As usual it is much more about commerce and the fact that RJB's contracts with the electricity generators come to an end at the beginning of next April. So far Mr

erators to pay me a decent price for my coal. They don't have to, you see. They are progressively switching to gas and anyway, they can buy imported coal much cheaper. With the present strength of the pound, these alternative sources of fuel get cheaper by the day. Asfordby is already a lost cause; it's never going to be economic. But the rest is

still up for grabs. "So there you go. If you don't step in and force the generators to pay up, what little is left of the coal industry might all but disappear. There is a perfectly respectable line of argument to say that this would be no bad thing. Your predecessor, Tim Eggar, certainly thought so. Coal is nasty, environmentally unfriendly stuff and nobody could possibly enjoy working in a mine. As for RJB, well the Government certainly doesn't owe Mr Budge a living. He's already made back most of what he paid for British Coal. In any case, the generators will have to buy some coal from him, if not on quite the same

lucrative terms as before. They cannot buy all their needs on the spot market. "If you were wise, then, you wouldn't

Pew things can be relied on in the stock market as much as the ability of news-Budge has only been able to sign up one contract to support his mines thereafter, and papers falsely to call a stock market crash.

fail to materialise. By the same token, however, when the City consensus is that the market is supported at current levels, it normally

After last Friday's sharp falls on both sides of the Atlantic, neither the weckend headlines nor yesterday's anti-climax should have come as any surprise. More worrying is the blithe insouciance with which equity strategists are writing off the prospect of a serious market correction.

Their case for doing so is little more than a variation on that old "things are different now" theme. The factors that normally kill a bull run are just not there this time round. the experts say. Inflation is a shadow of its former self, recession is a long way off and interest rates are close to peaking.

Perhaps as important, liquidity is strong, with institutions awash with cash that will eventually find its way back into the market. The bull market this year has also been very narrowly focused.

Strip out the banks, oils and pharmaceuticals and few other shares have done anything at all, which means there is still plenty of value among the second liners, especially those which have been under the cosh thanks to the strength of sterling.

The final plank in this sanguine (if not exactly bullish) argument is that the corporate sector is actually handing cash back to that Capital is actually quite a small enter-shareholders, unlike in 1987 when a flood prise, and the events complained of are

When newspapers warn that markets are of rights issues from stocks of such dubious braced for further steep falls, they invariably quality as Maxwell Communications left institutions reeling.

To believe that rosy scenario, however, you have to go along with the view implicit in the short sterling market that interest rates will peak at somewhere between 7.25 and 7.5 per cent. That takes a lot on trust about the temporary nature of this summer's windfall consumer binge and turns a blind eye to the freefall in the unemployment figures.

Although we are experiencing what the Bank of England calls its "policy pause", it has been correctly pointed out that pauses tend to be breaks between movements in the same direction. Interest rates are on the way up and probably further than the market expects. That's hardly a recipe for a continuing bull market.

Tasinos have always inhabited a rather murky world. For all the dinner suits, fine wines, posh clientele and gilded decor, scandal and untoward behaviour is never far from their doors, which is why they are so heavily regulated.

But for all that, the goings-on at Capital Corporation, owner of Crockfords and the Colony Club, take some beating. Bit by bit some extra-ordinary little vignettes are being drip fed into the newspapers about this company. It ought to be remembered here that Capital is actually quite a small enter-

hardly in the Guinness league. Even so, it cannot be too long before shareholders, and more importantly, the regulatory authorities, start demanding answers.

For starters there are accusations of phone tapping and other surveillance operations, inadequate gaming controls and questionable controls in the food and beverage department. There seems to have been open warfare amongst the board. Accusations are flying between past and present

directors like confetti. Now the company has fallen out with a group of disgruntled former employees who feel wronged by the board. On top of this there have been two unpublished external reports into the gaming and wine buyings side of the business.

Capital admits that it may not have been run the way a public company ought to be. But corrective action has now been taken, the company insists, and these things are now a thing of the past - a claim that might carry a little more credibility were it not for the fact that Garry Nesbitt, the former chairman, is still on the board.

Who's feeding out this stuff and for what purpose? Has the company really cleaned up its act or is more corrective action still needed? All these questions demand answers. It might actually benefit the company if regulators were to step in and provide some. The longer this drags on without some form of external investigation, the more Capital faces death by a thousand cuts.

Bioglan Pharma plans £200m float next year

Sameena Ahmad

Bioglan Pharma, one of the UK's oldest and most profitable pharmaceutical companies, plans a £200m float on the

main stock market next year. In an unusual decision for normally cash-hungry drug groups, Bioglan, which was incorporated in 1932 and has subsidiaries in five countries, cluding Germany and the US, may not raise any new money when it floats.

Terry Sadler, who joined the company as chairman and chief group was turning over £94,000 executive in 1985, transforming and employed three people. it from a vitamin group to a drug delivery specialist, said Bioglan was profitable and would not need to seek new money unless it wanted to make more acquisitions, a possibility in the US.

"We have always generated enough cash internally to fund our research. We are an unusual combination. We're UK-based. we invest heavily in research and we're profitable," he said.

only once, £10m with private investors last year.

like acne and psoriasis, but is investing in potentially lucrative drug delivery technologies. The group, which employs

170 people, more than doubled pre-tax profits to £1.4m on turnover 53 per cent ahead to compliance is one of the biggest £15m in the year to January. problems facing any pharma-When Mr Sadler joined the ceutical company trying to sell

Mr Sadler, who owns 56.8 per cent of Bioglan's shares, said a flotation would increase the group's attraction to big drug partners: "We want to benchmark the company. There is a tendency for big pharma companies to take a public compa-ny more seriously." ny more seriously." Hitchin-based Bioglan already

has licensing agreements with major drug groups, including

Since Mr Sadler joined, the Merck and Novartis. Though company has raised finance the company currently makes its money from manufacture and sale of skin creams like Metro-The company manufactures gel for acne and Cocosis for and sells a range of prescription scalp diseases, it is investing drugs to treat skin conditions around £3m a year in novel drug delivery technologies. Mr Sadler plans a significant rise in R&D spend to around £17m over the next three years: "Making drugs which are easier to its drugs. There is a great need for methods which make taking drugs less painful and disruptive." The company is focusing on novel protein delivery technology, the most difficult and competitive, but potentially most lucrative drug delivery market. Important proteins like

insulin or human growth factor

currently cannot be taken by

mouth as they are broken down

by the stomach and have to be

injected instead. Bioglan's bios-



Terry Sadler: Transformed Bioglan from a vitamin group to a lucrative drug delivery specialist

phere technology enables molecules to be applied to the skin and released over two weeks. He expects the company's most advanced product, a gel used with antiviral drugs, to reach market by 1999. "Drug delivery companies work with existing drugs, not new chemicals. Time to market is quicker," said Mr

Mr Sadler said a flotation would also increase stock liq-

uidity, though he said he did not intend to sell more than "a minium" of his own holding: "We want to reward investors and employees for their support. But we are all in this company for the long term. There is no question of us cashing in and getting out." Shareholders in the company, which is being advised by Hoare Govett, include Abbey Life Assurance and Shell

warns losses will continue

Microvitec, the troubled computer software house, crashed into the red yesterday for the six months to June and warned it would remain loss-making in the second half.

The comments were the latest in a string of profits warnings from the company which has been hit by the strength of sterling and a slump in sales at its largest division.

Operating losses of £2.9m compared with a profit in the first half of 1996 of £1.85m. Only the disposal of two of its subsidiaries during the period created any attributable profit and earnings per share of 0.1p compared with 1.4p a year ago. There will be no interim dividend (0.425p). James Bailey, chairman, said:

"In summary, this has been a very difficult period for the group. However, corrective action has been taken in the Display Division which has been primarily responsible for the poor first-half performance." Microvitec's computer dis-

play business was hit during the period by the decision of financial information group Bloomberg to move out of the hardware market. Sales to Bloomberg were worth £7,2m in the first half of 1996. Their absence contributed to a 47 per cent slump in turnover.

Microvitec Merrydown hit by departure of finance chief

Clifford German

Merrydown, the troubled cider group, has lost its finance director just months after the departure of its sales director. The management shake-out comes after disappointing results caused by plummeting sales of Two Dogs Lemonade in the wake of the public outcry about alcopops. However chairman and chief executive Richard Pudgey has so far survived the

group restructuring. Stephen Burke, Merrydown's finance director since April 1994, has left the company with immediate effect, and will be replaced by his deputy, Michael Dinnis, the company said yes-terday. Sales director Alan Rutherford left earlier this summer and will not be replaced.

Mr Burke, is expected to receive a pay-off of around £150,000, based on a two-year contract and a basic salary of £54,950 and a remuneration package of £88,365 according to the last accounts. An auditor by training, he was formerly group acquisitions manager at Dunhill Holdings. He had no immediate plans for the future, a spokesman for the company said.

Company sales fell by 5 per cent and profits more than halved to just £820,000 in the

worse than the market had expected following a profit warning earlier in the year. When the results were announced last month the company admitted that the board was top-heavy for a company with a market capitalisation of little more than £5m, and announced its intention of reducing administra-

tive costs by up to £1.5m.
But the City had openly speculated that the 55-year-old Richard Purdey would himself be a casualty, and that he would either retire completely or became a non-executive chairman, passing executive control

to the managing director. The company has been a victim of the price war between the larger UK cider makers and the failure of Two Dogs, which pioncered the craze for alcopops two years ago, and helped to generate profits of just over £2m in the year to March 1996. The popularity of alcopops has wanted in recent months and several supermarket groups have

withdrawn it from their shelves. Merrydown still makes Two Dogs, but the marketing and distribution was transferred to Scottish Courage in April. Scottish Courage will also provide the marketing and adver-tising spend. Merrydown's shares edged up 0.5p to 60.5p yesterday.



Franchise industry declared out of touch

IN BRIEF

More than two thirds of franchisors withdraw from the market within the first 10 years of being in business, while 50 per cent leave within the first five years, according to a study of 1,600 UK retail franchises conducted by accountants KPMG. The report argues that franchising is not as successful as many in the industry believe. It says the franchise industry places excessive stress on funiformity and conformity, an approach which is out of touch in today's competitive business market.

Burmah pays £28m for SMC

Burmah Castrol, the chemicals group, has purchased SMC, a foundry chemicals business, from Germany's Dynamit Nobel AG, for £28m. It is also selling Columbia Cement, its US-based adhesives company, for £15m. Burmah said it will report an exceptional pre-tax loss of £17m from the Columbia Cement sale, relating to goodwill. Burmah said the deals are in line with its strategy of repositioning the chemicals portfolio and giving greater focus to its foundry, steelmills, construction and screen printing inks businesses.

Kvaerner wins £140m Sellafield contract

Kvaerner, the Norwegian engineering and shipping group, is heading a consortium which has won £140m contract to design and build a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild a radioactive waste facility for British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild and British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild and British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild and British Nuclear Fuel at Selbuild at Selbuild and British Nuclear Fuel At Selbuild At Selbuild And British Nuclear Fuel At Sel lafield. Tarmac, the construction group, AEA Technology and Design Group Partnership are also part of the winning team.

Strong pound hits two thirds of firms

Two thirds of UK companies have suffered from the recent strength of sterling according to a survey of corporate treasurers by Record Treasury Management. Eighty-six per cent of treasurers favour joining European monetary union as some stage, up from 74 per joining European monetary union as some stage, up from 74 per joining European monetary union as some stage, up from 74 per joining European monetary union as some stage, up from 74 per joining European monetary union as some stage. cent last year. But just 15 per cent say the UK should join in 1999.

Profits rise at Wilson & Horton

Wilson & Horton, the New Zealand subsidiary of Independent Newspapers which owns 46 per cent of the publisher of The Independent, announced a 17 per cent increase in post-tax profits to NZ\$21.3m. The results reflect an increase in operating earnings from the New Zealand Herald.

Quintain completes £79.5m disposal

Quintain Estates, the property investor, has completed the £79.5m Quintain Estates, the property investor, has completed the £79.5m disposal of the majority of the properties it acquired with the acquisition of Fiscal Properties to Fieldmore. Part of the proceeds quisition of Fiscal Properties to Fieldmore. Part of the proceeds will go to repay the £49.3m loan it took out to purchase Fiscal.

Abbey National raises saving rates

Abbey National is the latest bank to raise interest rates in line with the recent quarter point rise in base rates. Investor 90 day savings account will rise by 0.25 per cent by August 20.

Prestbury not set to buy Domino's Pizza

Prestbury Leisure yesterday denied press reports that it would Prestbury Leisure yesicroay defined press reports that it would acquire Domino's Pizza, saying it had not reached any acquisiacquire Domino's Fizza, saying is and that although "discussions tion agreements. The company said that although "discussions non agreements. The uniquely sale that minorgh discussions have taken place with a number of parties regarding future achave taken place with a number of parties regarding future achave taken place with a number of parties regarding future achave taken place. nave taken place with a number of parties regarding future quisitions, at this stage no agreements have been reached."

Carpet king nets £15m for property group

John Willcock

Lord Harris of Peckham, the carpet king, and his family have made £15.6m from the sale of their private retail property company. The tycoon has sold C W Harris Properties to Pillar Property, the quoted property investor that specialises in retail warehouse parks and shopping centres.

Over the past three years Lord Harris has built a property portfolio consisting mainly of out-of-town retail freeholds. CW Harris owns five retail warehouse schemes and a high street shop in St Albans. The warehouses are in Luton, Orpington, Dartford, Carmarthen and Preston and have a total floor-space of 350,000 square feet and an annual rent income of £3.5m.

Pillar is paying for the deal with 80 per cent cash (£12.4m) and 20 per cent of shares (£3.2m) valued at 231p a share. Lord Harris's family has agreed not to sell the shares for at least £49.2m and the net assets at 30 six months.

Pillar has been built up by chairman Raymond Mould and his colleague Patrick Vaughan. The duo came to fame when they founded the Arlington group of business parks in the 1980s, before selling up to British Aerospace. They formed Pillar in 1991 and floated it three years later. This latest deal brings Pillar's total number of

retail parks to 20. Lord Harris said yesterday that he had "every confidence in the management of Pillar and the future success of the company." He said he was pleased he and his family would be holding 1.2 million Pillar shares. All the warehouse develop-

ments sold to Pillar are fully let to tenants like Lord Harris's Carpetright group, as well as Currys, Halfords, Homebase, MFI and B&Q. The average unexpired lease length is 18 years. The investment properties of

June 1997 stood at £25.9m. which included £11.7m of loans which will be repaid on completion of the deal.

Mr Mould commented: "The additions of these properties to Pillar's already substantial retail park portfolio underlines our strategy of investing in a sector which continues to demonstrate well above average growth."

The deal also means yet another fortune for Lord Harris, the self-made millionaire who sold his first carpet at the age of 13 in Peckham market.

He went on to build a nationwide carpet shop chain Harris Queensway which he sold at the height of the 1980s boom. But he couldn't keep away from the action and founded Carpetright in 1988 which itself boasts nearly 300 stores. What became Lowndes Queensway went bust at the beginning of the recession, something Lord Harris bitterly

Littlechild urged to stand firm on electricity cuts

Harris Properties are valued at

Business Correspondent

Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, was yesterday urged to stand firm over his bid to slash electricity prices by more than £30 a customer, despite intense pressure from suppliers to scrap his latest proposals.

The Electricity Consumers' Committees insisted the plans for a cap on bills was the only way to guarantee benefits to customers when domestic competition starts from next April

companies (RECs) for the first time, compared with the current price regime where higher generating costs can be passed through to bills.

He has that estimated the move would cut average bills by 12 per cent next year, to £238 excluding VAT. Yvonne Constance, chair-

man of the ECC, said the new system would mean RECs would "be forced to negotiate win the lowest prices for those new suppliers". She added that Professor Littlechild has althe maximum tariff was "the ready proposed maximum tariffs for regional electricity pose."

The regulator will reveal the latest proposals for electricity supply price controls tomorrow. The final plans are due to be published on 22 September, giving the companies until 27 October to accept or reject the controls.

warned Professor Littlechild and John Battle, the industry minister, that they could take the issue to the Monopolies and hard with the generators to Mergers Commission. They claimed their profit margins consumers who do not switch to on electricity supply, the element of bills being opened to competition, would plunge into losses of up to £50m for each

Some RECS have already

year to the end of March, even

Midland Interest Rates for Business Customers

Midland

New business rates effective from 18 August 1997

	Gross %	Gross CAR %
MoneyMaster		
Up to £5,000	3.46	3.50
£5,000+	3.76	3.80
£25,000+	4,05	4.10
£100,000+	4.10	4.15
£250,000+	4.34	4.40
Premium Business Account		
£5,000÷	4.80	4.90
£25,000+	5.28	5.40
£100,000+	5.51	5.65
£250,000+	5.70	5.85
Clients Premium Deposit Acco	unt	
£25,000+	4.70	4.75
£100,000+	5.14	5.20
Education Account	•	
Up to £25,000	4_61	4.70
£25,000÷	5.09	5.21
Treasurer Account		
Up to £2,000	1.00	1.00
£2,000+	2.23	2,25
£10,000+	4,17	4.25

Gross: The rate before the deduction of tax. CAR: Compound Annual Rate, or the true Gross return taking into account the frequency of interest payments. All rates quoted are per annum.

With effect from the 7th August 1997 Midland Bank's Base Rate has been increased by 0.25% to 7.00% p.a. Midland Bank plc., 27-32 Poultry, London EC2P 28X.

Taylor Nelson earmarks up to £30m for overseas buying spree

Cathy Newman

Taylor Nelson AGB, the UK's largest market research company, is planning to spend up to £30m on foreign acquisitions. It is planning a spending spree to take advantage of cheap buying opportunities abroad created by the strong pound.

The company said yesterday it had £10m in cash to make overseas purchases, in particular in Eastern Europe. Analysts predicted Taylor Nelson could comfortably spend £25-30m on expansion, through a combination of cash and debt.

Tony Cowling, chief executive, said the strength of the pound provided a golden op-portunity for a UK company to

expand internationally. He said media, healthcare and conhe was "actively" identifying acquisitions, and would anticipate closing a deal in the next six months, if the price was right. Mr Cowling added that Taylor Nelson would like to buy in Russia and Scandinavia, but said prices in the US and the Far East were prohibitive.

Strong profits from its most recent acquisition – a Danish company that deals in audience measurement of TV, radio, and press, which it bought for £6m three months ago - encouraged it to look at the possibilities of expansion in Northern Europe. Reporting a 38 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £5.5m for the first half of the year, Mr Cowling said the company's

sumer divisions had all performed well. Turnover for the TV audience measurement di-

vision was up 229 per cent. Analysts were impressed with the figures. Paul Richards, media analyst at Panmure Gordon, said he would be issuing a "buy" note today as they were a "cracking set of results"

Mr Richards said Taylor Nelson's consumer research division had benefited from a buoyant economy, and a growing demand for market research expertise from retailers launching lovalty cards.

He said the company should have no problem taking on debt for future growth. "Buying in Europe makes so much sense at

the moment because you get so much for your pound."

Mr Cowling said a number of "nasty problems" had been solved. Cost-cutting in the group's French operations had yielded returns, and last year's purchase of the Market Research Bureau of Ireland had beefed up the Irish business.

The disposal of a loss-making subsidiary, MRM, the leaflet distributor, at the end of last year had also helped matters. Mr Cowling said the diffi-culties of MRM, which Taylor Nelson bought two years ago, had taught him a "good lesson" not to get involved in businesses too far removed from the core market research area.

Turnover in the business di-

first half of the year. However, Mr Cowling said yesterday a new piece of business from BT would make up for the lost contract in the second half. Taylor Nelson already has a

resence in Romania, Russia, Poland and the Czech Republic. The company is running a pilot research project with half a dozen clients in Russia measuring consumption of soft drinks, snacks and confectionery. Taylor Nelson is also considering exporting some of its most successful UK research products such as the healthcare operation. A European service being piloted.

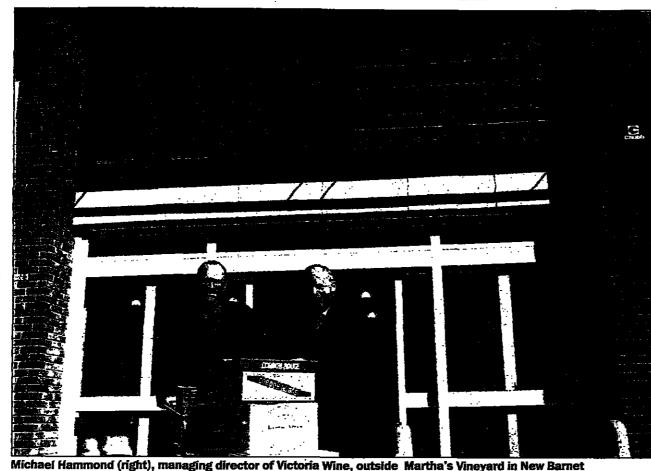
Victoria opens wine megastore

Sameena Ahmad

Victoria Wine, the off-licence chain owned by Allied Domecq, is launching its first drinks superstore to rival the supermarkets for a share of Britain's £7bn take-home drinks business. Martha's Vineyard, a 5,000 sq ft warehouse based in New Barnet in Hertforshire, opens

Allied Domecq plans to open a chain of superstores in an attempt stop the trend of drinker's buying booze in Tesco or Sainsbury. It is already searching for more UK sites for the Martha's concept and hopes to open three more stores next

Michael Hammond, managing director of Victoria Wine, said: "We are targeting people who do not already use our shops, who may currently buy their drinks at supermarkets. Martha's Vineyard will give



them ... easy parking, massive choice, knowledgeable staff and

very keen prices. The store, which has been sited in New Barnet because it

eration of known wine drinkers," will be designed like supermarket, with self selection in wide aisles and shopping trolleys to encourage has "an above average prolif-

There will also be opportunities to taste the wine on offer. Customers will be able to choose from some 650 wines sure. The move will dampen and will get a 10 per cent dis-speculation that Allied is look-

Analysts said the news would put supermarket's already thin margins under further pres-

Volkswagen profits soar | Moorfields to on weakening mark

Cathy Newman

Volkswagen, the largest car manufacturer in Europe, boost-ed profits for the first half of the year by 73 per cent, thanks to a combination of cost-cutting and a weaker German mark.

The company, which sells vehicles under the VW, Skoda, Seat and Audi brand-names, saw net profit surge to DM488m (£166m) as foreign sales were helped by a drop in the value of the mark, which has fallen almost 5 per cent against a basket of currencies of the country's big trading partners.

The number of cars it sold rose 10 per cent to nearly 2.2 million, despite a drop in do-

pectations. Volume, currency and cost-cutting all contributed." Followers of VW said the car manufacturer was reaping the benefits of a recovery launched by Ferdinand Piech, chief executive, four years ago. Volkswagen, which is to pre-

view its new Golf model this evening in Bonn, said it expected full-year net profit to exceed last year's level of DM678m despite the risks associated with new launches. The new Golf will be available to the public in October. VW said yesterday: "For the second Analysts said the figures were mainly in line with expectations, and that lower tax charges had tively if the current economic quarter," he said.

helped. François Colli, an analyst at Paribas Capital Markets in London, said: "The trend is also entails risks, we expect good but the numbers are 1997 pre-tax and net profit to broadly in line with market ex- be higher than last year at group and parent company level."

Sales only increased 12 per cent to DM56.5bn, but VW managed to increase the amount of money it earned per vehicle. Sales outside Germany rose 13.9 per cent, making up for a 1.5 per cent decline in domestic sales. The introduction of an updated version of the Golf had impacted sales of the existing model, the company said yesterday.

Andrew Blair-Smith, at BZW

in Frankfurt, was fairly bullish about VW's future. "The momentum at VW is still improving and that was particupect business to develop posi- larly evident in the second

GENERAL NATIONAL VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

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	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EP\$	Dividend	
Arges (1)	637m (581m)	28.1m (31.5m)	6.76p (7.068p)	6.1p (5.3p)	
Baldwin (1)	14.3m (11.5m)	-2.8m (-3.1m)	-11.2p (-11.2p)	1.5p (-)	
Cross Eyeglass (F)	11.4m (8.41m)	0.48m (0.68m)	-16.0p (38.9p)	8.0p (nil)	
Hydro-Dynamic (F)	£.05m (-m)	0.84m (-)	6.0p (-)	2.4p (-)	
Hampion Treat	30.7m (20.1m)	-6.5m (-9.8m)	-6.66p (-9.9p)	- (-)	
JFK Off & Bas (I)	18.3m (4.3m)	4.7m (-0.92m)	1.29p (-1.77p)	- (0.425p)	
Affermation (1)	20.9m (33.8m)	-0.42m (1.6m)	0.1 0 p (1.40p)	9.8p (8.36p)	
Severfield-Reave	52.3m (27§.8m)	3.89m (1.09m)	13.36p (6.92p)	3.75p (1.75p)	
Sherce Group (I)	6.73m (8.5m)	0.38m (0.41m)	3.9p (4.4p)	1.2p (2.0p)	
Zeyler Melson (I)	45.1m (42.4m)	5.52m (4.0m)	1.68p (1.23p)	0.5p (0.39p)	
Torday Caritale (I)	9.9m (10.7m)	0.61m (0.57m)	2.8p (2.8p)	- H	
(Atra Electronics I)	71.5m (57.8m)	8.7m (7.4m)	9.7p (7.3p)	2.4p (-)	

build Xanadu in

Clifford German

Moorfields Estates, a small, London-based property investment and development group led by two former top-rated property analysts, hopes to leap into the big-time by leading a consortium to build Xanadu, a £150m sports and leisure park in Lancashire.

The size of the proposed de-elopment, which will include an 80,000 sq ft hotel and retail complex on a 70 acre site between Liverpool and Manchester, dwarfs Moorfield's market valne of under £40m.

The proposition has yet to win planning permission or fin-ancial backing, but the consor-tium, which applied for planning permission yesterday, consists of a local developer, Greenbank Partnerships, Acer Snowmec, a subsidiary of Hyder, the Welsh water and electricity utility, and Wigan

borough council. Twin themes of the leisure complex will be skiing and aquatics, housed in a 1.5m sq ft domed building. It will contain an alpine village and a 375,000 sq ft skiing facility with a new kind of "real" snow, providing

ski runs and snowboarding. It will also have a 165,000 sq ft aquatics centre, featuring a 50m pool approved for competitions up to Olympic stan-dard, and a leisure pool with indoor facilities. The aquatics at 26p yesterday.

complex has already been approved in principle by the Sports Lottery Evaluation Panel and the English Sports Council. The complex will also in-

£59,000 last year under its new management led by Mr Gilbard and Graham Stanley, two former property analysts at Goldman Sachs, whose ambi-tions are to shake up the UK property sector. It unsuccess-fully attempted to take over its bigger rival Greycoat last year with an all-share offer worth

The shares were unchanged

Lancashire

clude a megaplex cinema and a screen-based "virtual reality experience". Construction could start in 1999, and altogether the complex could create 5,000 construction jobs and 2,500 permanent jobs once the complex manent jobs once the complex

is up and running.
"Strong interest is already being expressed by major leisure and retail space users. As a result we are extremely confident of pre-letting much of the scheme while the proposal goes through the planning process," Marc Gilbard, Moorfield's chief executive, said yesterday.

The project was also welcomed by the leader of Wigan council, Mr Peter Smith, who said: "Xanadu will send out a positive image of the borough, a location where the unexpected can and does happen."

Moorfields made a profit of

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY SAMEENA AHMAD

Argos catalogues reasons why the boom will not last.

s soothsavers go, Argos chief executive Mike Smith is well known for erring on the side of caution. But yesterday, the downbeat retailer surpassed himself. Never mind all the hype about a consumer boom -it won't last, was his message. The windfall factor is a oneoff he says, interest rates rises will start to have an effect and by the end of the year, conmners will not be feeling half as chipper.

Given recent analysis of the economic effects of the windfall payments he is probably right. Sadly, it is not what Argos investors really want to hear.

After two years during which Argos appeared to walk on water, the catalogue re-tailer has lost its glitter this year after two profits warnings. The shares, which were riding high at almost 800p last October, have dribbled down to 621.5p, after a 1.5p drop

So what the market was looking for were signs that the company might be set to recapture the premium rating of yesteryear. Sadly that appears some way off. What Argos now appears to be is a good, solid operator, in a competitive, mature market.

Yesterday's half-year figures were in line with the reduced expectations, with pre-tax profits of £28m against £32m the previous year, hit by some one-off costs.

The company is trying to go for growth but the market is concerned it will not come soon enough. At home, it printed more catalogues with wider ranges and cut the margin by 0.5 per cent to grow sales. More is being spent on advertising and promotion and a store opening pro-gramme to take the number of outlets from the current 433 to around 700 is still in place.

Home delivery is now offered in all stores but the £5 charge will only cover the costs of the service. The First Stop trial of low-priced electrical good shops is being kept at just three stores for the time being with no new openings planned for the rest

of the year.
The worry is that at a boom time for consumer electronics and furniture, group likefor-like sales grew by a modest 5.3 per cent in the half year and 8 per cent since

Abroad, Argos will start ingly international contracts trading in Holland next year with blue-chip players like but expects the venture to lose £4m-£5m in 1997 and up to £8m next year. Break-even is not anticipated until 2001.

Argos is still growing share in key sectors and is still the price leader in many of them. But on forecasts of £150m for the full year, Argos shares trade on a forward rating of 17. A solid hold, but not one to overexcite.

Severfield profits surge

everfield-Reeve has

achieved the improbable. It has made fabricating steel skeletons for buildings a sexy business. Over the past three years, the company's share price has outperformed the market by over 420 per cent. And yesterday's interim results did not disappoint. Even after losses from the food hygiene side, pre-tax profits for the six months to June rose 116 per cent to £4m on turnover ahead 88 per cent to £52m. Though Rowen. the fabricator bought for a snip last year probably con-tributed around half the sales. Severfield's original steels business is in fine shape, with output up 36 per cent to record levels.

So what is Severfield's secret? For a start, the company is the UK's biggest player with 16 per cent of the market and no near rival. Its size means it is winning larger and increas-

Siemens - in the period, 27 per cent of core business sales were exports. And as a bigger player it can keep raw material costs low, buying in bulk from British Steel. Moreover. as the strong pound squeezes

weaker exporters out. Severfield continues to take share. Severfield's defining quality. though, is a ruthless attention to efficiency. Compared with the industry average of nine man hours taken to process a tonne of steel. Severfield can

do the job in five. John Severs, MD, aims for four.
That is good news for margin prospects at Rowen. New production processes have al-ready raised Rowen's returns from 1.6 per cent at acquisition to 5per cent. As a more specialist, designer fabricator, Rowen's margins may not match group returns of nearly 10 per cent, but there is clearly

room for improvement.

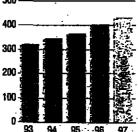
The one black spot is lossmaking Manaho, which specialises in chain-mail gloves and knife washers to improve food hygiene. Escalating mad cow costs have, ironically, left customers with no money to spend on upgrading their food hygiene equipment. With legislation enforcing new hygiene standards looking remote, Manabo should be sold.

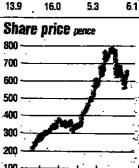
House broker Hoare Govett forecasts £8m this year and £10.3 for 1998. The shares, down 3p to 491.5p, are on a still tempting prospective rating of 18 this year and 14 times the next.

Argos: At a glance

MICH NO. YO	EG. 21.7 30	HI, SHARE P	A NO UE 170	Υ	·
rading record	94	95	96		96/97 (6 moņiths)
arnover (Sm)	1, 257 -, .	1,436	1,660 .	561_	. 627
re-tax profits (Sm)	100.2	124.4	141.4	31.8	28.1
arnings per share (ф)	22.3	27.Ŝ	32.5	7.06	6.76
lividends per share (p)	11.25	13.9	16.0	5.3	6.1
hana		QL.			

Store numbers





Ultra defends its premium rating

nvestors in Ultra Electronics, the MBO which floated at 250p last September, have had a switchback ride. Shares in the electronic systems group rose to 332p in January before dipping to 251p a couple of months ago.
But profits have moved steadily higher reflecting a strong performance from both its

air and sea systems businesses.

Of the overall 24 per cent rise in sales for the six months to June to £72m and 17 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £9m, air systems' sales rose a quarter to £46m, of which 16 per cent was organic and sea systems' sales rose 22 per cent to £26m, virtually all organic

New orders led to a slight dilution in profit margins because of the need to spend on re-search and development. The order book has grown from £174m at the year-end to £230m

quisitions in the US - Flightline Electronics

Both the military and civilian aerospace markets are buoyant at the moment. The group's biggest single contract, to supply equipment to the Nimrod 2000 programme, has grown to £53m, spread over the next five years. On the sea side, the Batch II Trafalgar submarine programme and the Korean destroyer programme should bring in new orders.

Defence-based companies do not normally

get or deserve a premium rating, but yesterday's figures beat expectations. Albert E Sharp has upgraded forecasts for the full year from £17m to £17.4m. In an otherwise weak market the shares rose 3.5p to 296p, putting them on a prospective p/e ratio of just under 16. That is cheaper than established rivals Smiths Industries and Cobbam which enjoy in June, including £9m from last year's ac-

GEC and Kvaerner share in Chinese dam contract

Clifford German

GEC Alsthom, the Anglo-French engineering group, and Kvaerner, the Norwegian engineering group, appear to have won an important part of an \$800m (£500m) contract to pro-vide eight of the first 14 turbines to be installed at The Three Gorges dam in China.

The dam, which will attempt to tame the Yangtse River, will be the largest in the world and will cost up to US\$30bn (£19bn) to build. But statements from the two companies yesterday left the precise status of the contracts in doubt A statement from Kvaerner

in Oslo said its Kvaerner Design and Technology unit had been chosen to deliver the eight turbines. The core components for five of the turbines will be pro-duced under the management of Kvaerner Energy in Norway and General Electric of the US, and China. The three other tur-

design, the company said. But a parallel announcement from based in Zurich. Last week a Seimens spokesman in Peking GEC Alsthom in Paris said talks with China over its participation in the Three Gorges dam project had not been com-

"We have high hopes that the contract will be finalised in coming weeks, but it has not been finalised yet," a GEC Al-sthom spokesman said.

Industry sources suggested GEC Alsthom was not satisfied with the size of its part of the contract and hoped to negotiate better towns before the ate better terms before the final signature. According to the sources, GEC Alsthom's share of the total £500m order is around £125m, less than that of the rival bidder Siemens, the German electronics giant.

Other consortia bidding for a share in the contract include Siemens and Voith of Germany and Asea Brown Boveri the bines will be produced by GEC jointly owned Swiss and Alsthom based on a Kvaerner Swedish engineering group

Seimens spokesman in Peking was quoted by Agence France Presse as saying its conscirtium would supply six of the 14 turbines and generators required for the first phase of the project, while ABB would provide eight

generators.
The Chinese Yangise Three Gorges Project Development, the Chinese government body awarding contracts has so far re-fused to be drawn on the winning bids, although its has promised an announcement in the next few days.

The initial contract for turbines and generators is only a small part of the total cost of the project but is being keenly fought because of the too hold the winning suppliers will create in potentially the world's

biggest market.
When finished in 2009 the project will have created a dam. capable of generating egough electricity to supply 10 percent of China's electricity needs.

لفكذا من الملحل

Data Bank

-30.8

-34.6

-15.3

+0,25

FISE 100

4835.0

FTSE 250

4663.6

FTSE 350

Gifts Index

SEAQ VOLUME

595.9m shares,

49,041 bargains

Share spotlight

share price, pence

2340.6

مكذا من الاعل

catalogues *

18 Why the

Vill not last

market report/shares

Footsie refuses to oblige the bears with a meltdown

For the second Monday in succession the so-confidently predicted stock market meltidown failed to materialise. True, Footsie was off 86.5 points in early trading. And it suffered a downbeat session at the close the index was off 30.8 at 4,835, a poor but hardly disastrous display.

Sellers were conspicuous by their absence; so were buyers. Trading was low even by the undernanding standards of the holiday season. Indeed turnover would have looked particularly woeful if special

deals had not gone through. What appeared to be a dividend-washing exercise at BT contributed 34.5 million to volume and more Thorn 'B' share buy-backs accounted for another 68.6 million. So real turnover was for the first time for a long while below the important 500 million level.

of the 1987 disaster ap-proaches, is haunting the mar-ket. It is a superstitious place. And uncomfortable anniversaries invariably produce acute attacks of the jitters. Even so Friday's slump was

surprising. It occurred without a realistic excuse. Many fund managers and strategists were quick to reiterate their view that blue chips were hope-lessly overvalued and a dramatic correction was on the

There is no doubt that blue chips, after their heady progress this year, are fragile and it does not take much to crode confidence. But yesterday's performance will be seen by the more bullish observers as an encouraging response to Friday's retreat.

Still, the immediate Footsie outlook is dominated by New The spectre of another ash, as the tenth anniverse

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

its momentum.

the air.

from buying the Carlsberg Tet-

ley brewing operation, needs at

least one big deal to recapture

There is a strong body of opinion that it will descend on

William Hill, the betting chain

representing the last significant

asset of the tottering Brent Walker (unchanged at 1.5p).

Talk of a hotel swoop is also in

However FLC, headed by ex-Channel Four chief Michael

Grade, could make an attrac-

stock market reporter of the year

is so often wrong, is that the US Corporation, the discotheque market will turn on another

spectacular display.

The well-flagged recovery by supporting shares was halted. only temporarily in the eyes of many. The FTSE 250 index

gave up 34.6 points and the FTSE Smallcap 14.8.

Bass, up 11.5p to 839p, and Ladbroke, 3.5p to 253.5p, were spurred by the bookies' legal victory spring Communications. victory against Camelot over the 49s fixed-odds numbers game. Camelot will appeal against the decision of magis-

trate Ronald Bartle. The brewing giant also gained strength from renewed

terests as offering a natural di-versification. FLC shares rose 11.5p to 322.5p. They were, before disappointing trading eroded sentiment, around to health and fitness group. The market is convinced Bass, blocked by the Government

400p last year. Any Bass bid, it is thought, would be pitched near the 400p level. BTR, still largely on US buying, continued its revival, again topping the blue chip leader board with a 6p gain to 221p. National Power, up 11p to 518.5p. was pushed on yield

some FLC areas such as bin-go and bowling alleys and could see the group's other in-

considerations Banks, which led this year's Footsie charge, were generally lower with HSBC, hit by SBC Warburg, the main casualty. The securities house moved from add to hold, cutting the

recently high-flying shares by 70.5p to 2.097p. Sears, the unhappy retailer, added 2.5p to 62p, against

the shares were worth 120p. PDFM, the market's most entrenched bears, went bargainhunting, lifting its stake by 4.4 per cent to 20.5 per cent. Storehouse's rally continued with a 7p gain to 228.5p.

Safeway's latest price-cutting

campaign left the supermarket chain off 7.5p to 379p. Dixons added 8p to 609.5p with stock-broker Sutherlands pointing to a 670p target price.

A cross below the then mar-

ket price clipped Kenwood, the domestic appliance group, which seems to have resisted the overtures of smaller rival Pifco, 14p to 103.5p, a low.

RJB Mining, on its mine closure and Dresdner Kleinwort

Benson sell advice, fell 5p to 312.5p.
Talk of a bid for struggling

Gibbon, the printing ink group, rose 8.5p to 123.5p, a three day 27p improvement. Investment presentations in Scotland are behind the Irish oil group Bula Resources bad little impact, leaving the activity. Paul Spencer at shares off 0.25p to 1.25p. Dawn stockbroker Granville Davies

Taking Stock

☐Prestbury Leisure, a little

sportswear company which came to market in April, rose

came to instant in April, rose 0.5p to 2.75p after confirming talks with possible bid targets. Chairman Mike Edelson had been expected to use the

market via a reverse takeover.

But Domino's Pizza, a home

Nigel Wray bas 20 per cent, is

company as a vehicle for bringing a football club to

delivery business where

now regarded as the most

likely acquisition. Domino's,

owned by a US group, has more than 130 outlets in this

stories that it is thinking of tive buy for the sprawling стаsh, as the tenth anniversary today the general view, which Til Dusk, a convenience stores pouncing on First Leisure brewer. It already operates in is looking for profits of £2m this year and £2.2m next. turn-of-the year suggestions chain, jumped 40p to 255p. Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 2D per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other details: r Ex rights x Ex-dividend a Ex all u Unisted Securities Market s Suspended pp Partly Paid pm Nil Paid Shares. ‡ AlM Stock The Independent Index FTSE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterling Rates 04
UK Stock Market Report 07 Bullion Report 05
UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20
Foreign Exchange 03 Tokyo Market 21 Water Shares Electricity Shares High Street Banks Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description independent. Index, including its portfolio tacility, phone 0891 128 For assistance, call our helpline 0771 873 4378 (300am - 500pm). Market leaders: Top 20 volumes 650000 Lloyds TSB 620000 BG 580000 Plkington FTSE 100 Index hour by hour 11.00 4830.7 down 35.1 12.00 4842.0 down 23.8 "First Direct Food Manufacturers never makes Textiles & Apparel

dam contrate

Relax and enjoy yourself – it's

probably good for the economy

hat is wrong with spending money? The economic rhetoric in every continental European economy, and in Japan, at the moment is that there should be higher investment and export-led growth. Domestic consumption the idea that people should want to spend their own money buying

That rhetoric washes across the Channel. To judge by the way the "windfall" gains that people here have received from their building society shares are discussed as a problem, and the Chancellor was criticised for not taxing them back, you might imagine that the fact that Britons are richer to the tune of £35bn is somehow bad. The counter-arguments - for example, that over-investment means that savings are wasted and that for all countries to strive to be net exporters is self-defeating and ridicu-

lous - are rarely made. Or at least they are rarely made outside the US. One of the effects of the long American boom and the creation by the US of hi-tech industries that dominate the world has been a reassessment of the nature of the US current account deficit, and with it, an explanation of why high-consumption economies have become more vibrant

than those of Germany and Japan. The core of the argument is that the US in particular is in many ways a developing country. Other countries rush to invest there because it offers higher returns than could be obtained at home - just as Britain invested much of its savings abroad in the second half of the last century and Japan has invested abroad during the last two decades. The current account deficit that the US has been running is therefore a necessary offset to its capital ac-

count surplus. This argument has been well put by John Makin, an economist at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research in Washington. In a paper this month he turns on its head the idea that America's main problem is its



Hamish McRae

Strong domestic consumption has sustained the recovery while continental economies have faltered ... Rising confidence has had the effect of reducing unemployment

tries want to invest in the US, the dollar would be driven far too high were it not for the willingness of US citizens to spend their money. If they did not do so, the US would have faced the same problem as Japan, which over-saves.

Oversaving creates two difficulties, both of which have struck Japan. The savings are exported in the form of foreign investment, or they remain at home where they

have to be invested in something. Foreign investment is fine if there are adequate opportunities and the investors have adequate skills. In the case of Japan much of its direct investment – investment in plant and machinery - has been well-spent. Japan owns high-qualshortage of savings. If other coun- ity factories throughout the rest of roughly five percentage points with people enjoying themselves.

it has also invested in foreign financial assets, which have often fallen in value: it was estimated that Japan has lost about half its accuinulated current account surpluses through bad investment.

When savings are invested at home, unless there are adequate opportunities, the effect is simply to drive up the exchange rate and drive down the domestic rates of return on investment. That is what has happened in Japan. The nonmanufacturing sector remains heavily regulated and accordingly there is little incentive to invest to improve productivity. These nonmanufacturing industries would not be exporters - they would have to live on domestic demand - but if they were really successful, that would stimulate domestic demand, and might even eliminate the current account surplus. Japan does not want to risk that, so despite the modest deregulation taking place, growth will remain stagnant.

The US shows the reverse phenomenon. Because it is a developing country, it is normal and natural to attract foreign capital and to run a current account deficit. The fact that the dollar has strengthened in the last year, despite the deficit, is further proof of the attractions of the US as an investment haven. Indeed had it not been for the deficit, the dollar would have soared to a level where US exports would be priced out of foreign markets (as has happened in Japan) and the country's attractions would have been weakened. Moral: it is a good thing that Americans are such vo-

What does all this say about us? The parallel is not perfect because the UK happens to be running a current account surplus. It is true that like the US the UK has attracted large amounts of foreign capital; it has also been a large capital exporter, which has helped keep sterling at a reasonable level. But there is not quite the same perceived lack of domestic savings in the UK, though the proportion of consumption in GDP remains

the world, which is admirable. But higher than other European economies. We are able to sustain this lower savings rate because we invest less and therefore need less savings; and partly because we can

attract large capital inflows.
To some extent the UK may also be a developing country, but it is not quite in the same league as the US. Nevertheless it is possible to make a case that the fact that the urge to splurge is good. The fact that once Britons have money in their pockets and purses they will go out and spend it gives a strength rather than a weakness to the economy. Strong domestic consumption has sustained the recovery while continental economies have faltered. This has enabled the country to head into a virtuous circle, with strong consumer confidence bringing unemployment rates to less than half those of France, Germany and Italy, while falling unemployment has further boosted confidence. The high propensity to consume, plus lower taxation, means the UK's living standards are comparable to those of France, Germany and Italy despite the fact that GDP per head

Further, relying on domestic consumption to sustain demand is in some ways a safer strategy than relying on exports where the growth of demand for your products is beyoud your control.

As with all economic arguments,

would be silly to push this one too far. At some point excessive consumption leads to a surge in imports question for both Britain and the US is whether the economies are close to that point where most additional demand cannot be met by higher production at home and the pressure shows by sucking in more imports and by rising inflation at home. But to say that is simply to point out there is such a thing as excessive consumption. There can be too much of a good thing. But to regard consumption as somehow bad and investment (however poor the quality) as good, is absurd. There is nothing wrong

NatWest snaps up former head of No 10 Policy Unit

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

NatWest Group has snapped up Norman Blackwell, former head of John Major's No 10 Policy Unit, to succeed Mark Aston as the bank's top strategist. Speaking as someone who tipped Nat West's shares last Christmas, I trust that the bank will do rather better than John Major did in May. Anyway, as Nat West's director of group corporate develop-ment, Mr Blackwell will whisper directly into the ear of chief executive Derek Wanless.

He will be responsible for thinking up new strategy and translating it into action.

Mr Blackwell is certainly well qualified for the job. He got a first in natural sciences at Trinity College, Cambridge and an MBA from Wharton Business School in the US. He also has a PhD in finance and 17 years of experi-ence with McKinsey, much of it in

banking and financial services.

Our man succeeded Sarah Hogg

at No 10 in February 1995 and got a life peerage in John Major's resignation honours list. Which brings us to another figure in the last government, Malcolm Rifkind, who joined Australian mining and trading company BHP following the election de-feat. BHP has been having a

rough time of it lately, and now

brokers T Hoare have decided to

really put the boot in with a "strong sell" note on the Mark Horn, the analyst at T Hoare responsible for the note, writes: "The shares will continue to underperform relative to major equity benchmarks; the recent ension in the ranks of management has eroded the 'manage ment premium' of BHP; the problems faced by BHP are a

combination of size, structure and

management."
In fact Mr Horn couldn't have been more negative if he had written "the sky is falling"." Poor Malcoim. Perhaps Mr Blackwell can find him a desk at NatWest.

Liffe Financial Futures

The fur is flying in the lucrative



Norman Blackwell: To whisper in Derek Wanless's ear

world of City legal journalism.
The uncrowned queen of the genre, Catrin Griffiths, and her sidekick Dominic Egan, have quit the lawyers' glossy Legal Business as editor and deputy editor respectively. spectively.

To add insult to injury, the duo have joined with legal headhunters Quarry Dougall to launch a rival publishing venture of their own. Their departure follows a bust-up with John Pritchard, the mastermind behind the Legal 500 directory of lawyers, as well as a string of legal magazines. Legal Business has made boatloads of dosh for Mr Pritchard, concentrating as it does on advertising from the fat-cat end of City law, and chambers across London are agog as to how his flagship organ will fare without his two stars.

La Griffiths, a flame-headed Welshwoman, is expecting her second baby, and is at home sun-ning herself in Highbury, north London.

She and Mr Egan will be joined by Mark Brandon, formerly editor of the Legal 500 and another Pritchard refusenik, to produce what Quarry Dougall enigmatically describes as "a range of products new to the legal market". Gareth Quarry, chief executive of Quarry Dougall, says: "We have no intention of competing with Legal Business of Commercial Lawyer. We believe there is a great demand for a radically difBeni

ferent sort of product." Mr Quarry refuses to be drawn on what the new product will be although he is pleased as punch having recruited a "formidable

Meanwhile Mr Pritchard has appointed a part-timer on Legal Business, Martha Klein, to hold the reins as editor while he goes on holiday.

If you understand the phrase: "I'm mad for it. I'm having it large," then you'll be saddened to hear that the Hacienda, Manchester's most famous nightclub, is up for sale after its owners went

The round red brick edifice has only just celebrated its 15th anniversary, having originally been founded as a home for bands like New Order and The

It has also seen the rave move-ment and the Manchester scene come and go, with bands like the Inspiral Carpets and Oasis treading its beer-soaked boards.

Now Bruce Poizier of property agents DTZ Debenham Thorpe is looking for bids of around £1.2m for the building. Bruce says there has been a huge amount of interest in the site, with proposals to turn it into offices, residential schemes, even an art gallery. "The company that went into liquidation, FAC 51, owns the name 'Hacienda', while the firm that owns the building, TGP 225, has put it on the market," says Bruce. The latter is owned by Rob Gretton, a former manager of New

You won't catch Bruce himself raving in the club. "I'm a bit too long in the tooth - I haven't the energy," he confesses.

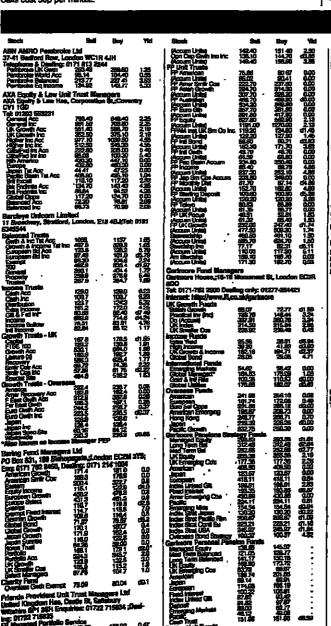
John Willcock

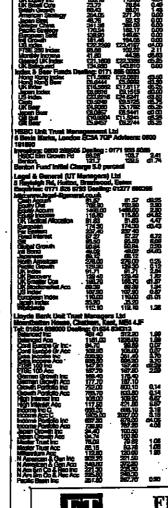
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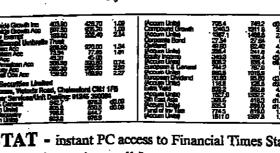
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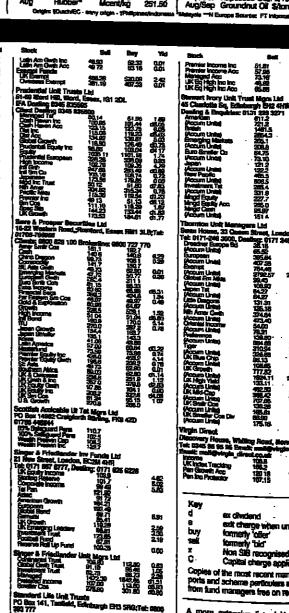


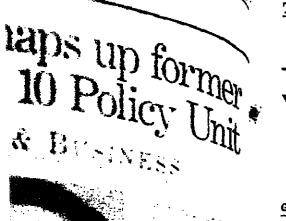






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YORK EBOR MEETING: An opening day opportunity for the Derby winner to confirm his status in a contender for race of the year Benny the tip to prove International standard

GREG WOOD

will be remembered.

One victories to their credit.

confer neither favour nor dis-

advantage, and it is clear that

fold on the Knavesmire today.

chief might point out that the only thing which the Interna-tional lacks is the presence of It is a reminder of the remarkable depth of quality in the mid-die-distance division at present Kieren Fallon aboard one of Bosra Sham's rivals, Fallon's that the opening day of the Ebor desperately ill-judged perfor-mance on Henry Cecil's filly in meeting at York presents us with the first candidate for the "race of the decade" for, well, at the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown last month cost him the ride on least three weeks. And while even Max Clifford might think the favourite this afternoon, and the possibility that he might extwice before reaching for such act a little sporting revenge a description less than a month would certainly have added an after the King George at Ascot, extra dash of spice. today's International Stakes None the less, the human could easily prove to be the contest by which the 1997 campaign

roll-call today is also of the highest quality, since Frankie Dettori (Singspiel). Fallon's It is true that just four runreplacement, Pat Eddery, and ners will go to post, the small-Michael Kinane, who rides the est field in the race's 25-year Irish Derby winner, Desert history, but rarely, if ever, can the cast list for a Group One King, would be most people's choice as the best three riders event have consisted entirely of in Europe. horses with previous Group Joining them is Willie Ryan, Add to that the fact that, with

whose bold display on Benny The Dip, his mount today, in the the arguable exception of Singspiel, all of them are racing Derby at Epsom was itself a performance of which any of toover what appears to be their day's jockeys would be proud. ideal trip, on going which will And it may well be that the deciding factor will be the crucial tactical decisions each will have something very special will un-

Those with a taste for mis-John Gosden, Benny The Dip's trainer, said yesterday, "You couldn't find two better older horses than Bosra Sham and Singspiel, and the other two are Derby winners. But it is unfortunate when these races cut up to 'Mickey Mouse' fields. We had one at Newbury on Saturday and another in the Eclipse, and you get muddling races. I just hope we get a truly-run race.

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Silver Patriarch (York 3.45) NB: Zamalek

(Folkestone 3.25)

"The false pace in the Eclipse didn't suit Benny The Dip as he was coming back to them at the end, suggesting he would have been suited by faster, and he is proven over a mile and a half."

Henry Cecil was adamant after the Eclipse Stakes that the lack of a sound pace in the early stages had contributed to his little surprising that Bosra Sham's connections did not supply her with a pacemaker to-

Benny The Dip made all the running to win the Dante Stakes over this course and distance in May, but despite Gosden's comments, it seems unlikely that to the line. Ryan will set a fierce gallop today and play into the favourite's

What with those doubts, and Bosra Sham's recent foot prob-lems, it would be folly to back her at odds hovering close to even money. Two of her three rivals, meanwhile, also arrive with serious queries over their ability to produce their best. since Desert King, winner of the 2,000 Guineas and Derby in his native Ireland, has run deplorably on his two previous visits to Britain, and Singspiel could well need rather longer to recover from an exhausting King George on unforgiving

ground. This leaves punters looking squarely at an obvious slice of alue. BENNY THE DIP (nap 3.10) may not be the finest Derby winner of the decade, but he is almost certainly better at filly's defeat, which makes it a today's trip, and could well be allowed to set a pace which suits him, rather than his rivals, just as he did in the Dante. A fierce battler, he should prove very dif-

the rail inside the final furlong today, and at 5-1, he is an irresistible bet to hold on all the way The International Stakes is

the obvious highlight this afternoon, but the supporting card is fascinating too, with a mixture of Classic prospects, potentially top-class juveniles and some of the best stayers in training.

The two-year-old event which opens the card has been won by Revoque and Grand Lodge in recent years, and with five once-raced, unbeaten colts in the field, not to mention Ian Balding's promising Merlin's Ring, this could prove to be a very significant race, albeit one which makes little appeal for punters. Teapot Row (2.05) may come out on top, but more solid betting opportunities will be provided by Double Eclipse 35), who gets a vital 91b from Celeric, the Ascot Gold Cup winner, and Stowaway (next best 3.45), who can secure a place in the St Leger field with victory in the Great Voltigeur

Camelot fail in court threat to bookmakers' 49's bet, page 5

2.05: MERLIN'S RING, who stayed

the best form and could prove the

best value. Chester Rouse, for a colt

maiden on his debut and La-Faah, who, who beat Social Charter by half

a length in a 6f Ascot maiden on his debut, and Teapot Row, who clocked

fair time for a newcomer when

beating Friendly Warning by four lengths in a 6f Newmarket maiden.

ght pose more problems.



follow up in the International Stakes today

Benny The Dip proved his liking for York by winning the Dante Stakes in May and car Photograph: Phil Smith/Sporting Life

3.45: STOWAWAY, a progressive

Eddery hits ton but hit by ban

Pat Eddery reached his century for the season at Windsor yesterday, but his championship hopes received a joli when he was handed a three-day ban for careless riding. The reigning champion hit the ton for the 24th time in the last 25 years when scoring on Salmon Ladder and Risque Lady. But sandwiched between those successes came his suspension when second on Lasham in the Earley Nursery Handicap.

Ray Cochrane and Vic Soane had their explanations recorded over the running of a twoyear-old at the meeting. The

stewards after Persian Sabre, having her third run, finished sixth. beaten approximately eight lengths behind Risque Lady, in the EBF Maiden Stakes. Cochrane told the stewards that he was instructed to settle the filly in behind, to cover her up and to come with a long run. He said that he was denied a clear run in the last two

Soane, Persian Sabre's trainer, confirmed the riding instructions. expressed his satisfaction with Cochrane's riding and added that the filly had been very fractious in the pair were called before the stalls on her previous run at yesterday morning.

Newbury. However the stewards, after viewing the video, decided to record their explanations. Michael Stoute yesterday an-

nounced that the leading Ebor fancy Mohawk River-12-1 with William Hill - is a definite runner in tomorrow's big handicap at York. The trainer also said that the £100,000-added race is the "preferred option" for Purist, who bypasses an alternative engagement today. Purist, set to carry 7st 10lb and also 12-1 with William Hill, was withdrawn from this afternoon's Great Voltigeur Stakes

However, final plans for the Yarmouth winner Purist could depend on whether Robert Armstrong runs the top weight Kutta, in whose absence the weights would rise 4lb.

Armstrong said: "If the ground is good to soft Kutta will run. They had a quarter of an inch of rain last night but they will need more if he is to run. Like several other recent Group races, Saturday's Celebration Mile at Goodwood will suffer from a small field. Only

2.45: DOUBLE ECLIPSE, who ran his best race this season when two lengths third to Double Trigger and Classic Clicke in the Goodwood Cup five horses - Cape Cross, Among over 2m last time, has nothing to lear Men, Peartree House, Polar from Election Day, Samraan or a good bet to confirm those placings.

Corradini on that running and, on at 5-1 with Ladbrokes and the Tote. Prince and Wixim - were left in the Group Two event yesterday.



916 better terms, can turn Ascot Gold has since disappointed behind Shan-tou in the Group Three Princess Of Wales's Stakes over 1m 4f at Newmarket. The Northumberland Plate faces his toughest task yet.

3.15: BENNY THE DIP, who finished a short-head in front of Rosra Sham when I'/4 lengths second to Pilsudski in the Eclipse Stakes over im If at Sandown last time, looks

acts well on this track when making all in the Dante Stakes over this distance in May and looks the safest proposition. Bosra Sham came in for an indifferent ride in the Eclipse and, if she recaptures the form she showed to walk away with the Prince Of Wales's Stakes over 1m 2f at Royal Ascot, she will be hard to beat. However, she has had an injury scare, may not be suited by the muddling pace this contest promises to be run at and, at the odds, is worth opposing, Singspiel, winner of the Japon Cup and Dubai World Cup, is another who would have a big chance on his best form but he had a hard race when fourth to Swain in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes over 1m 4f at Ascot. Desert King, winner of the Irish 2,000 Guineas (1m) and the Irish Derby (Im 4f) at the Curragh, has

yet to show his best outside Ireland and faces his toughest race so far.

The Derby winner showed that he

performer who ran his best race so far when winning the Gordon Stakes over 1m 4f at Goodwood by three lengths from Poseidon, looks sure to give a good account of himself.

Silver Patriarch, a long way in front of the selection when a short head second to Benny The Dip in the Derby over 1m 4f at Epsom, renumed home with mucus in his lungs after disappointing behind Desert King in the Irish Derby over 1m 41 chance on his Epsom form but he only returned to full work recently and might need this race. Kin Mill went out like a light behind Swain after leading for a long way in the Group One King George Vi and Queen Elizabeth Stakes over Im 4f at Ascot, and might be bes watched until demonstrating he has returned to his best. Appre-hension and Garnda seem likely to be a bit out of their depth.

York — 4.45

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C H L T

2771建

2.05 Merlin's Ring 2.35 Double Eclipse 3.10 Benny The Dip

4.15 HIGH INTRIGUE (nap) 4.45 Madiy Sharp 5.15 King Darius

GOING: Good, STALLS: 51, 61 & 71 - stands arise: round course - ins

STALLS: 3, 91 & 71 - stands side: round course - inside
DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Left-hand, U-shaped course. Plat and ideal for the powerful galloper.

Left-hand, U-shaped course. Plat and ideal for the powerful galloper.

Course is 1m S of city on A1036, York station Inc. ADMISSION: County Stand 5.3.1

[16-23] year-olds \$18); Tattersalls \$16; Silver Ring \$5 (OAPs \$2,50); Course Enclosure \$3 (OAPs \$1,50), Under-16s free all enclosures (no order 12s in County Stand). CAR

PARE: for

33 (OAPS 5) 301, Proce-Top tree an environment from 100 runners given a success ratio of 27% M Scoute 20 from 127 (20.7%); J Gooden 19 from 140 (20.2%); J Danlop 18 from 18 (18.0%); R Education 16 from 152 (10.7%); P Cole 14 from 101 (13.7%); B Hills 14 from 115 (12.7%); R Chariton 12 from 37 (32.4%); D Loder 12 from 45 (20.7%).

■ LEADING JOCKETS: L Dettori 44 was from 191 rides gives a success ratio of 22.7%; Pat Eddery 31 from 204 (10.7%); J Red 23 from 186 (14.0%); K Boberts 18 from 27 (14.2%); K Pallon 18 from 143 (12.5%); W Ryan 16 from 106 (15.1%); K Darley 16 from 169 (19.5%); M J Kinane 15 from 88 (17%); K Cockrane 14 from (14 (11.4%).

■ Reconstruction 103 trees from 162 (12.5%).

189 (1937a); M. J. Minner 15 from no 1705; R. Container C. 1905; Minister 103 vars from 402 rares (35.2%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Suratoga Springs (vasored) (2.95); Minister (vasored) (4.15).

WENNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Mose.

LONG-DESTANCE RUNNERS (within Britain); Silver Patriarch (3.45), Garuda (4.45).

& Samrann (3.25) have been som 255 miles by J Dunlop from Arundel, West Sassex.

Section	7.11	Covery liese been duit has times by a service	
2.0	5	DEPLOY ACOMB STAKES (CLASS B) £25,000 added 2YO 7f Penalty Value £17,950	C4
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	1	MR CAPEL (USA) (13) (D) Malcount A Malcount in Social 5 0S Sands	rs 5 10
-	36	TEAPOT ROW (17) (Dute of Decorate 7 feet 5 0 M Robert 5 LONE PIPER (20) (Saced Managed C Britain 8 10 M Robert 5 Robert 8 10 K Dark	m 7 7 m 1 10

9 312 SARROGA SPRINSS (PA) (D) BY) AN EXTINCT THE ORDER OF THE ORDER O

2.35 WEATHERBYS INSURANCE LONSDALE STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) £40,000 added 2m £24,656

Corradial

1998: Ceters 4 9 4 W Cason 9-4 (av (t) Morteyl drawn (7) 7 rat

1998: Ceters 4 9 4 W Cason 9-4 (av (t) Morteyl drawn (7) 7 rat

FORM GUIDE

Back at a more suntable trip after his umplaced run in the male-and-a-half Princess of Wales's
Stakes at Neumanian, CELERIC, witner of this event a year ago, tooks posed to stage a
Stakes at Neumanian, Cetleric, witner of this event a year ago, tooks posed to stage a
Stakes at Neumanian, Cetlerich, witner of this event a year ago, tooks posed to stage a
Stakes at Neumanian, Cetlerich einer the stage of tooks of the field of the theological control of the theological control of the thin and said. Double Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bie Eclipse some way back fifth and said. Double Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bie Eclipse some way back fifth and said. Double Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bie Eclipse some way back fifth and said. Double Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bie Eclipse some some bary being and the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bie Eclipse some way back fifth and said. Double Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bie Eclipse some with Election Day doing erremety well to be the first of the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Eclipse followed with a two-length thin bies in the Ecli

3.10 ALDOMONTE INTERNATIONAL STAKES (Group 1) (CLASS A) £250,000 added 1m 2f 85yds £179,428 21-113 SINGSPIEL (24) (D) (Shakin Mohammed) M Stoute 5 9 5 ________ Detail 2 125 21-113 SIOSRA SHAM (15A) (45) (D) (SP) Molin: Sant) H Ceci 4 9 2 _______ Pet Editory 4 231 3-2112 BEHAN THE DIP (45) (CD) (Landon Knight Carbonne Famil J Gooden 3 8 11 __W Byan 3 128 21141 DESERT KING (53) (3) (Belonyles J Magnien A P O Phen (th) 3 3 11 ___ M J (Manuel 1 113

BETTING: evens Bosra Sham, 5-2 Singaplet, 9-2 Berny The Dip, 12-2 Desert King FORM GUIDE

Found Guide.

Boara Sham, buty recovered from the skight brusing to ber minesable near-fore which caused her to miss some work last week, is reunted with Pet Edday after running into all sorts of trouble under Kieren Falkon when third behind Pisudski and Benny The Dip in the Eclipse. The vary BENNY THE DIP, who made most of the running pluggad on to take second, basic on only a length and a quanter was most pleasing. The selection earlier held off Saker Patrench by a short head in the Derby after looking certaint no be colored by the grey, who produced a great run having open last of all at Teacenham Comer. John Gosden's runner is certainty and of the havest of Pleath harmes in ord one of the havest of Pleath harmes in ord one of the havest of Pleath harmes in ord one of the havest of Pleath harmes in ord one of the havest of Pleath harmes in ord one of the harms produced a great run howing been last of all at Teachhem Comer. John Gosden's numer is certainly one of the bravest of Derby heroes if not one of the best. Benny The Dip, who took the Derbe over course and distance in May, put up an even better performance in the Echipse tran in the Derby and, with only a field of four, the race could be nun to such tim better than a will Bosra Sham (who is best coming off a strong pace). Singspilet was out of the first two for the first time in 14 races in the lifting George but still ran a cracker on ground too soft to first fourth. Desert King, who completes the quartist, won the linsh 2000 Gumeas - by three tengins - and the Irish Derby after lying only eighth of the ten helf a mile out. Despite having achieved so much already, there might still be some improvement left in the Dane-hill cold.

1	3	45	GREAT VOLTIGEUR STAKES (Group 2) (CLASS A) £70,000 added 370 1m 4f Penalty Value £54,457	•
	1		KENGFISHER BILL (24) (D) (Ld Howard de Walden) Nês J Cecil 8 12	
	2	1-63	APPREHENSION (87) (BF) (Shelift Mohammad) D Lode: 8 9	Ħ
1	3	6-4153	GARNIDA (45) (Bob Demuser) J Duntop 8 9	27
1	4	1-3125	SILVER PATRIANCH (51) (8P) (Peter S Wirfield) J Duntop 8 9	12
1	5		STOWNISKY (21) (2) (Codebhr) Secor bin Surror 8 9 1 Depter 3 1	
•	-		- 5 declared -	

BETTRIC: 11-8 Sheer Patriach, 6-4 Stoutmay, 3-1 Minglisher Mill, 16-1 Appn 1996: Dushyamor 3-8 9 Pat Eddery 3-1 (H Cecil drawn (Z) 8 ran FORM GRUDE SELVER PATRIARCH shaped well when third in the Sandown Classic T

SILVER PATRIARCH shaped well when third in the Sandown Classic Trial on his return. Silver Patriarch, inched our by Bentry The Dip in the Derby after lying last of 13 at Tatterham Corner, returned larne and with mucus in his lungs when a hotpot and fifth in the Irish Derby, However, he worked well recently with Sandrain and is reported in good form. Stownsway stormed home by three lengths in the Cortion States in the big Goodwood meaning and has come out of the race well. As that was only his third race, he should continue on the upgrade and could develop into a leading St Leger candidate. Kingisher Mill, successful in the King Edward VII at Royal Ascot, is penalized 31b for that. He had to miss a law days work after finishing last in the King George but is back in tine shape now and gives for the Donessier classic if pleasing connections here.

4	.15	MELROSE RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £25,000 : 1m 6f Penalty Value £14,972	added 3YC
ī	0-2150	SOLD MRD (21) (Made Sald B Has 9 7	"Pat Eddary 5
2	324030	PAPUA (18) Robert & Elisabeth Hacristel Balking 9 4	_M Roberts 9
3	041	ZERPOUR (25) (H H Ags Khan) 1 Cuman 93	Reld 8
4	1-2050	HAPPY MANSTRAL (12) (BF) (Astantic Record Limited) M. Johnston 8 11	D Holland 11.
5	12100	CYTEMA (20) (Lord Donougymore) P Cole 8 10	
ă	4321	LIFFRE (17) (D) (Shelin Mohammed) J Gosden 8 8	l, Dettori 12
7		MENTHUK (125A) (12) (Hamdan Al Maldoum) B Has 8 8	
8		SAUSALIFO BAY (17) U C Smith) I Balding 88	
9		CERO'S PEARL (SIE) BEF) (J H Sherryri) M Tomplers 8 5	
10		MARKETHOW MAID (55) (John Stacherson & Sons Nelson) R Fairey 8 5	
11		HIGH BUTHISUE (26) (0) (Mrs E A Hams) H Cod 84	
12		GEORGIA VENTURE (17) (D) (Dr Rank S B Chao) S Woods 8 4	
_		- 12 declared -	,

4.45 EAGLE LANE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £17,500 added 6f Penalty Value £14,613 326420 VENTURE CAPITALIST (3) (CD) (W G Smersi D Nations 8 10 0

2	121113	BLESSENGER CORSCINSE (10) (BF) (A G Buck) M W Easterby 4 9 9
3		WORLD PREMIER (26) (0) (Ms C 5 Britain) C Britain 4 9 8
ž		MUSIC GOLD (S.D. (IS, (N.S. Yong) W.O'Comran 4.9.6
5	6,000	MADLY SHAFP (10) (D) (Lord Selections) J W Warts 6.9.5
ā		ZUHAR (15) (D) (Clayon Belle) Partieship Lpii D McCain 494 Carroll 15
7		YOUNG BROWNS (10) (D) (I Laughton & W R Honer; J Berry 3 9 1P Roberts (5) 10
ġ	0.0515	ALMUNIMUM (USA) (18) (M P Burke's Forma, September T D Barron 5 9 0
9	003521	MR BERGERAC (11) (D) (P R Jahr) B Paing 690
10	000000	LAGO DI VARANO (10) (The PRT Grup) R Whitake 58 12Dean Nickemen 1 V
11	00 100	PERRYSTON VIEW (15) (I) (Ars Jans Hacksan) P Cater 58 11
	01-100	LEMINARIAN MEM (TR) (NJ MAZ YALE MEGABRINI) L COMB, 2 G TT " " " " YALEN 5
12	043030	THE BAY FOX (17) AS Whosken B McMatton 3 B 11
13	404312	PLANSIR D'ANNOUR (42) (D) (BE) (AN Tabor No.) Magney N Catagram 3 8 10 _Part Editory 18
14	105256	DAKWE (USA) (10) (CD) (Mrs Andrea M Makinson) Mrs V Acontey (688
15	063213	BENEDE (18) (10) (Tony Favoret) Mrs. J Remarket ? B B
16	002221	PRESENT GENERATION 5) (S Lury) ? Guest 4 8 8S Sanders 18
17		SECA KEY SECA (25) (D) (Tim Code: M Charron 3 8 8 P Months (3) 8
18	051453	TILER (3) (CD) (Mrs C Robrson) M Johnson 5 8 6 D Helland 9
19		DOUBLE OSCAR (3) (D) (Inb) Racing! D Nactor's 4 8 5
20		CREY KINGSOM (16) (CD) (Lies Britain) M Britain 6 8 3
21	154510	MR TERBH (2) (Plannum Roong List) Mrs J Romoten 5 8 2 F Lyneb 19
22	AFD11	PURPLE PLING (24) (D) Dates N F Theogen D Chapman 5 8 1 Quint 11
23	CEETON	ROYAL DONE (10) (C) (G W Jones) M Ware 5 8 1
43	لمتهيد	MOTAL DURING (AU) (A) No P ACTES M MAPS 3 O 1

THER, turning our again quickly after a third of 21 in Saturday's Great St Within at Ripon, can show the way home here, He had Mr Teigh, Double Occar and Venture Capitalists behind on that occasion and they meat on more or less the same terms. Before that, Mark Johnston's charge finished a three-length fifth to So invepti, also at Ripon - Pernyston View termt - and be got home by a nock from Geey Magalons at Ayr less month when Double Oscar and Zaftein were fifth and tenth of 14. The selection can confirm Ayr running despite meeting Grey Kington at book twose. Beastinghidingbiles was challing up his fifth success this season when a length and a half too good for Suprise Mission at Ascot last month and followed with a third of 19 to Moon Strike and Michight Escape at Hoydock, beaten a nepth and the Sastelpy's charge should confirm Haydock running with Deames (thee lengths back in sixth at Haydock and 4h better) and also Young Bigang, Lago Di Variano and Royal Deame, who were eighth, 13th and 14th. Madily Sharp is useful on his day, He has yet to reach a police eight four alternost the term but is coming down in the weights and could go well with John Reid a good booking. Alequidings firsthed trie more than a length of the winner when fifth of ten to Chewnt at Asoc after overcoming a tarify start to score at Ayr but seven furlongs is his tinp and he may find the roce writially over by the time he gets mount of Franke Detroit, and Massic Gold, a course winner but yet to race beyond the marimum trip, could all prove dengerous.

5.15 EGLINTON NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £15,000 added 2YO 7f Penalty Value £12,135

_		TIO II I GIRM'S TERMO STATES	
1	31221	ALCONLESSIT (25) (D) () David Abell M Johnston 9 7	M. Roberts 3
2	650113	FLOWER O'CANDRE (DG) (D) (MIS E Rhind) M W Eastedby 9 1	M J Kipane 1
3	143	CARBON (16) (C) (Lost Hartington) D Mortey 9 0	K Fallon 10
4	242221	BERNARDO BELLOTTO (\$) (Rutrard Green (Fine Parranges) M Bell 8 13	L Dettori 7
5	3313	207 (21) (Nac) Streets K Burke 8 12	Lowther (5) 12
В	06451	COOL SECRET (3) (The Glora Darley Roung Partnership) A Multipliand S 9	D Wright 6
7	000143	NIME DARRUS (17) IE John Penyl R Hannon 8 8	Pat Eddery 9
8	5533330	LAKELAND PRIDE (SS) (J G White) P (Sans 8 6	JF Boon 11
9	31	SEASTLY OFFIED (22) (D) (Steve Harmond) T Easterly 8 4	L Charsock 2
10	036	CASE AUX FOLLES (16) (Christopher Wright) J Hills 8 3	R HEs 15
11	01	CPTIMISTIC (22) (CI) (Mystic Meg Limetol) M Tompkins 8 2	4 خفر السيد
12	1232	SICK AS A PARROT (11) (D) (Mrs Sheley Dayer C Dayer 7 13	G Barginell 8
13	3430	LEGIFFIC (17) (Neen Raong) M Polglase 7 13	JTarte 5 B
14	01	COLONEL CUSTER (48) (Guy Reero) C Thornton 7 23	A Mackey 14
15	503	HALF A IONCKER (35) (J A Campbell) R Father 7 10	12 شغوا لـــــ
		_ 15 declared _	-

Despite a sipped bit, causing him to hang badly, ALCONLEIGH best Beladers more than bit lengths over today's tinp at Thirsk last time – it could probably have 20 lengths had he lespt stratight. Mark Johnston's consistent coit, successful at Ripon in May, hade limished numer-up in between victimes, including when finding Tajasur a head too good at Octicast, y, where Carbons was times and a half lengths sway last of four. Carbon earlier won on his debut over six futiongs of loday's track – Lakefand Pride a two-length third of six and 8th better off – and finished a close-up third to Peter's Imp at Newcastewith Cool Secret fifth of ten. Cool Secret won a Rectar nursery by four lengths but meds Carbon on 9b worse terms. Carbon, 7th better in with Alconleigh than at Doncester and likely to be suited by the extra furlong, he could run the selection close.

Selection: ALCONLEIGH

FIRST SHOW

					, ,	Paist Classy	8-1	10-1	_ 8-1	10-1
Bearty The Dip	41	92	54	<u>51</u>	1 1	Elec .	. 91	10-1	8-1	11-1
Desert King	<u>74</u>	<u> 13-2</u>	7.1	11.2	l i	Вишо в	14-1	141	14-1	141
	With a	•		. .	11	Mr Benjarac	14-1	12-1	12-1	10-1
C-Cost H-Wi	em Hei, L	- L8000	es, T-	late	1 L	Almahina	16-1	14-1	14-1	14-1
					_	Couble Oscar		141	16-1	141
V _c	xk —	4 1		•	1 1	Mr Teigh		16-1	14-1	16-1
			<u>'</u> —		1 1	World Populer	12-1		18-1	14-1
Hoese	<u>c</u>	_#			11	Dame	141	20-1	161	141
High lathburg	<u>5-2</u>	31	<u> 31</u>	114	11	Gray Kingdom	20-1			
Zerpour	72	114	7-2	114	{				20-1	<u>16-1</u>
Life.	41	7-2	7-2	7-2	[[Medy Sterp	161	141	20-1	12-1
Milak	10-1	114	81	11-1	1 1	Mests Gold	12.1			<u> 20-1</u>
					11	Peryston View	20-1		16-1	<u> 14 1</u>
Ghongle Venture	81	<u>12-1</u>	10-1		1	Propert Generalise	25-1	20-1	25-1	20-1
Circle Poor!	<u> 16 1</u>	<u>16-1</u>	161	<u> 16-1</u>	1 1	Purple Files	20:1	20-1	161	<u> 251</u>
Happy Masteri	16-1	12-1	141	14-1	11	Royal Danes	20-1	201	<u>251</u>	25-1
Grian	16-1	181	161	26-1	11	Venture Capitalist	251	20.1	18-1	<u> 20 1</u>
Santalilo Boy	20-1	16-1	141	16-1	!	<u>Zuberir</u>	251	<u> 20 L</u>	<u> 16 1</u>	16.1

65 11:10 11:10 exers

Scio Libo 14-1 16-1 14-1 20-1 251 201 251 201 Marathen Meid 50-1 68-1 98-1 50-1 Each way, a quarter the colds, places 1.2,3

C - Coral, H - William Hill, L - Ladbroles, T - Tota

The Tote bet on the York 2.3%: 15-B Double Edipse, 9-4 Celerc, 5-1 Window Castle, 6-1 Worker Castle, 5-1 Window Castle, 6-1 Appetersor, 4-1-1 Gasado, 15-4 Appetersor, 4-1-1 Gasado, 15-1 Appetersor, 4-1-1 Appetersor, 4-1

Lago Di Variano 38-1 25-1 38-1 25-1

Stra Key Stra 25:1 33:1 25:1 33:1

Una Gay Fox 33-1 33-1 33-1 25-1

Young Black 20-1 25-1 38-1 25-1

Each way, a quarter the odds, places 1, 2, 3, 4

Day, 7-1 Sermean, 11-1 Compdini.	16-1 Apprehension, 40-1 Gangle.										
INTERNATIONAL STA	KES - 10-YEAR-TALE										
1987 88 20	90 81 92 95 94 95 96										
f the tenousline: 1 5 2	3 3 12 2 3 1 31										
r's place in bettieg: 1, 3 0	3 0 0 0 0 4										

ning picess 238 72 151 41 161 81 261 41 94 64 8- 5 4 4 3 5 3 4 5 4 5 Profit or loss to £1 stake: Percentige -£1.63 Second Percenties -£10.00

Tüşi trabbesis: 14 Stoute — Ezond 11993 & 1994) Sesed bit-Surjor — Halling (1995 & 1996) Top Jockeys: W R SMinburn - Exclud (1993 & 1994), Helling (1996)

RACING RESULTS

HAMMITON Tobe: £1.80; £1.30, £1.60. DF: £2.00. CSF £3,74. 4.00: 1. CAMERSRELD Dane O'Noil: 11-2; 2. Lastrato 13-2; 3. Muffurfishout 6-1. 10 res. 7-2 few Feyrana (54%). 1½. nb. (R Hennon, East Everlagh). Totac £7.30; £1.90. £2.40. £2.20. DF: £45.70. CSF: £41.97. These: £216.78. Tro: £10.4.40. After a stew-ard: inquiry, placings unablered. 4.30: 1. RiSQUE LADY (Pat Eddey) 3-1; 2. Risual Streams 5-4 for 2. Generale 14-1.

2.16: 1 GLOSE RUNNER (A Outrane) 4.1; 2. Il Principo 8-1; 3. Charite Biggime 33-1, 9 ran. 100-30 (av Winnebago (4th). 1/4, hd. (/ 10 Neill, Penrith). Yote: £5.50; £1.30, 28:: £717.00. Tro: £61.80.
2.45: 1. WESTERN VENTURE (I Chemock)
25-1: 2. Seconds Amey 7-1: 3. Trying Times
20-1: 4. Monis 10-1. 18 mm, 5-1 jt fars One Lad (8th), Reinhardt, Y., nk. (M Wane, Rich-mond), Tote: £30.70; £4.60, £1.70, £3.40,

£2.50. DF: £156.90. CSF: £176.90. Treast: 22.50. Dr. 2130, 90. CSr. 2176.90. Incast 53.31,768. Troc 2771,90. 3.15: 1. CHASKA () Weaver evens faz, 2. Baytham 33-1; 3. Installah 3-1. 9 can, 7. 2. (M. fohrston, Mödelenin, Totes £1,60. £1.10. £4.10. £2.50. Dr. £17.80. CSF.

£1.0, £4.10, £2.50. OF: £17.80. CSF: £3.07. Tito: £38.90. 25.1 HO LENG (N Mennedy) 20-1; 2. Legs Bo Frendly 4.7 fav; 2. Emperor's Gold 11-2. 8 ran. 1/4, 10. (Mass L Perratt, Ayri. Tothe: £28.20; £4.10, £1.10. £1.40. OF: £38.50. £3.00. OF: £288.30. CSF. £3.00. CSF. £3.15. 1. TOULOURS RIVERIA (G Bardwell 11-2. Pelany 9-4 fav; 2. Classic Flyer 14-1. 7 ran. 1/4, ½. U Pearce, Newmarket). Tothe: £4.80; £2.20, £1.40. OF: £7.10. CSF: £5.53. 44.85. 1. MONTECRISTO (P Roberts 5-1: 1. MONTECRISTO (P Roberts 5-1: 1. TITLE INDEEPENDENT)

4.48: 1. MONTECRISTO (P Roberts) 5-1: 2, Lord Advocate 10-1; 3, Giffbox 25-1, 7 ran. evens toy Double Fight (8th), 31, hd. (R Guest, Newmarket), Totac £5.40; £2.60, £1.30. DF; £24.80, CSF; £43,37.

Placepol: £380.00. Quadpot: £28.20, Place 6: £237.07. Place 5: £75.16.

2:30: 1. ASRIEON PETE (J Reid) 4:1: 2. Snow Partridge 5:2 for: 3. Georgina 11:4. 12 ran. 1%, 3%. (M Strute, Nowmarket). Toes: 64:30: £1:40, £1:20, £1:60. DP; £4:20. CSF: £13.26. Tha: £11.50, 3.00: 1. DEAD ARK (L Dettor) 15-8 lax: 2. Woody's Boy 7-2; 3. Azones 7-1, 6 ran. 7., 1, 11 Balding, Vingsclere). Tota: £2.40; £1.40, £1.90. DF: £3.00. CSF: £7.72, 3.30; 1. SALMON LADDER (Pat Edden)

* THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES

0891 261 970

FOLKESTONE

2. Royal Styness 5-4 far. 2. Gunnells 14-1. 15 ran. S'ru-hd, 6. (P Harris, Bertmannstei). Tota: £4.40; £1.70, £1.60, £4.30. DP. £4.80.

CSF: £6,69, Tro: £41,00, 5.00: 1 OPENING RANGE (P Bradley) 14-1: 2. Bairs, Atholi 25-1; 3. Whitz; Yud 25-1 12 ran. 5-6 tay Cross The Border (6th).

FOLKESTONE

2.20 Cantonese 2.50 Won't Forget Me 3.25 Veronica Franco 4.00 Silver Secret 4.30 Pride Of Hayling 5.00 Sun Alert

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 51 & 61, high for 71 to 1m 4f.

Bright-hand, untilizing course.

Lourse is din W of form off A.O. Westenhanger station (sertential tendent), Charles Crossi adjoins course. ADMISSION:

The from Lendon, Charles Crossi adjoins course. ADMISSION:

Still medicallia from), CAR PARK: Free. vice from Landon, (Thering Cross) actions 50 (under the free), CAR PARK: Free

an junder the irre). CAR PARE: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hannon 21 winners from 120 runters grees a success rate of 16.3%; R Alcebarst 17 from 38 (18.3%);
J Danlop 16 from 44 (18.4%); B Channon 14 from 56 (14.6%).

LEADING JOCKEYS G Daffield 10 wins from 112 rides gives
a success ratio of 17%; Pani Eddery 18 from (06 (18%); Dance
a success ratio of 17%; Pani Eddery 18 from (06 (18%); Dance
of 17%; Pani Eddery 18 from (06 (18%); Dance
of 18%; S Sanders 13 from 108 (12%).

2.20 JOHN MCCARTHY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,550 2YO filles of 189yds

D) £4,550 ZYO THRES OF LISTYCE

ADMINE Cay (Nelsous) 8 11 ______ R Financh (3) 3

O CHYDNESSE RISA) [32] R Creation 8 11 ______ T Speaks 8

OC CAPTIVATING (15) R Herrori 8 11 ______ Dues O'Nell 3

COLESTAL RAY (15) A Foster 8 11 _____ M Technol 7

O COALMERISSIDALERITER [18] J Hith 8 11 _____ M Hearty (2) 13

ESANQUES N GENER B 11 ______ B Hearty (2) 12

O MESTA [32] (89) N Callegino B 11 ______ S Domeso 2

O MESTA [32] (89) N Callegino B 11 ______ S Domeso 2

O MESTA [32] (89) N Gallegino B 11 ______ Paul Edday A

SERVITYA [33] B Harburg B 11 ______ Paul Edday A

DEMBER R Mehrurg B 11 ______ S Corber 10

EDEMBER R Mehrurg B 11 ______ A Carlet 14

S SELAR REY SERVICE (17) M Charmon 8 11 _____ A Calleton 2 1

15

SETIMB: 5-2 Sika Key Service, 3-1 Mantria, 11-2 Castoneso, 13-2 Star
Of Grownest, 10-1 Roberts, 12-1 Restly 14-1 Radjon, Cockstrorating day,
18-1 Captivating, Colection Sep. 20-1 Entaryours, Admire, Nataligia Pet,

3.25 ROCHESTER HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 1m 4f

4.00 GRAFTY GREEN MEDIAN AUCTION MAID-EN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 6f

LEADING JOCKEYS & Dathers 19 was 100 (18%); Dane a surrow rate of 17%, Paul Eddorf 18 from 108 (12%).

I surrow rate of 17%, Paul Eddorf 18 from 108 (12%).

O'Neill 19 from 18 (1(1.%); 5 Sanders 13 from 108 (12%).

E presentive: (60 with in 4-53 races (155.2%).

E presentive: (60 with in 4-53 races (155.2%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Prox King (wasned) (1.00).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Prox King (wasned) (1.00).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Corniche Quest (4.30) won a 1-54 race (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) has been sen 2.76 and real first time 2.000 servers (1.50) sent 2.53 rates (1.50) sent 2.54 sent 2.50 sent 2.55 rates (1.50) sent 2.55 ra

4.30 HIGH HALDEN LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 6f

5.00 PAUL COOK APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 2m 93yds

400 ASBEAN (27) K kgry 7 10 ___ — 7 declared — — 1 declared — 14 declared — 14 declared — 14 declared = 15 declared = GOLF: Disappointment again for the prodigal as an underachiever secures his first major while Ryder Cup team takes shape

The taming of a young Master

ho would of thought a young American who came close to winning two majors this year was not called Tiger Woods? In fact, he was named Justin Leonard and the Open champion was only thwarted in claiming a double with the US PGA Championship at Winged Foot by a brilliant final-round 66 from

Love's victory by five strokes meant he was the first thirtysomething to win a major this year, and the third first-time winner after Woods and Leonard. Woods, the youngest US Masters champion at 21. trailed in 17 strokes behind Love after a closing 75 left him

Post Augusta, where he won by a record 12 strokes, there was huge speculation about Woods doing the mythical Grand Slam. Woods did nothing to dampen down the furore.

You have to win four times in the right weeks, was the gist of his reasoning. By the start of the US PGA, he had changed his tune. "Realistically, it is next to impossible," he said.

While Love never finished lower than 16th in the majors this year, and Leonard joined him in having three top-10 finishes, Woods was 19th at the US Open, 24th at Royal Troon and 29th last week. On Sunday, he began the final round eight strokes off the lead and immediately bogeyed the first. He missed a birdie chance at the second and entered in distracted-putter-twirling mode.

By the time he double bogeved the ninth, stubbing a chip and three points, the putter was getting clearance from air traffic control on its journey back to the bag.

At Augusta. he was 18 under par. In the three remaining majors, he was 12 over. For just 10 holes of those three tournaments, he was 24 over. At the US PGA he had four doubles, including two during a third

After winning at Augusta, Tiger Woods has not made the impact expected in the year's other majors. Andy Farrell reports

round when he was ideally

placed to charge.
At Troon, Woods had two triples and a quadruple bogey. Without those, he would have finished second but the world No 1 has learned a bard lesson in course management. While Augusta National, a unique style of layout, is ripe for being overpowered, Woods has found that more traditional major championship sites demand the US Open, Troon and Winged Foot each provide a severe test of every depart-ment of a player's game.

Tiger Woods' major performances in 1997

70, 66, 65, 69 Non by 12 strokes

74, 67, 73, 72 Finished 19th

72, 74, 64, 74

The USPGA, Winged Foot 70, 70, 71, 75 Finished 29th

In practice for the US PGA Jack Lumpkin, Davis Love's coach and a former assistant pro at Winged Foot, kept emphasising the need to get the ball back in play quickly from the rough. Byron Nelson, one of the legends of the game, told Leonard exactly the same at a pre-tournament reception. Even John Daly got the message. "You have no choice when you go in the rough but to take your medicine and chip out," he said after his opening 66.
Too often Woods tried to

blast away from the long grass. For his troubles, he left with a sore ankle. Of course, his aggressiveness is what makes him so special. A brilliant slicing sixiron out of the trees, which finished 12 feet from the hole. was reminiscent of Seve Ballesteros. But, as with the Spaniard, you have to ask what he was doing there in the first place. "I hit too many bad shots," Woods said. "It'll be different next Two remarks made in the

wake of his Masters runaway come to mind. "Up to now Tiger has only won on resort courses," Colin Montgomerie said. "I'm not saying Augusta is a re-

sort course but there is the same amount of room off the tee." Woods has seven professional victories but none of them have come on tight courses which test every club in the bag.

And Ernie Els said: "It's when you have disappointments in majors that you start thinking that it is not too easy. It may happen to Tiger.'

Woods has given golf the youthful image it needed and done much to raise the standard of everyone else's game, but he is still two weeks away from completing his first year as a professional

Montgomerie added last week: "Experience is one thing, but you cannot beat talent. I noticed that at the Masters in a big hurry playing with Tiger on the Saturday afternoon. Everyone said he wasn't experienced. Big deal, right? The guy has immense talent and you can't beat that.

In golf, however, there are two other opponents: yourself and the course. Conquering both of those, as well as 155 other players, every week just



Tiger Woods is frustrated on the testing Winged Foot course at the USPGA, where he finished a disappointing 17 strokes behind the winner, Davis Love Photographs: AFP

e Ryder Cup team takes shape US captain gets Kite opts for team experience

Ignoring one of the strongest candidates for his two wild card picks - namely himself the American Ryder Cup captain. Tom Kite, selected Fred Couples and Lee Janzen to join the 10 players who automatically qualified from the points list for the match at Valderrama in September. writes Andy Farrell.

With six players from the team that lost the cup at Oak Hill two years ago. Kite had the luxury of leaving out a player with three top-10 finishes in the majors this year. It is unthinkable that his counterpart, Seve Ballesteros, could do the same when his team is finalised in two weeks' time, mainly because no European can claim as many as two top-10 finishes in majors this sea-

With four rookies on his team already in Tiger Woods, Justin Leonard, Jim Furyk and Scott Hoch, Kite went for experience even if neither player has a winning record in the Ryder Cup. In four matches, Couples has won five games, lost seven and halved four, while Janzen lost both his outings when he played at The Belfry in 1993.

Couples, who finished 17th on the standings, was seventh at both the US Masters and the Open, but has played only a limited schedule during the course of a year when his fa-ther has been ill with leukaemia, the relationship with his fiancée broke down and his new girlfriend discovered she had breast cancer.

"Freddie has had a lot of distractions, but when he is good, he is as good as we have ever had," Kite said. Kite was also concerned about the 1992 Masters champion playing twice a day with his history of back problems, but added:

Freddie told me numerous times that he wanted to play. Couples, 37, said: "I've had my ups and downs in the Ryder Cup, but it is always a dramatic week and a lot of fun. It's made a relatively long year

come to an end. Janzen, the '93 US Open champion, narrowly missed being selected two years ago but came into contention by finishing fourth in the USPGA on Sunday, playing the final round with Kite. I was waiting for someone to tell me not with words, but with shots, that they wanted to be on the team," Kite said.

Where it came down to two guys, I went with Ryder Cup experience," he added. "It was a tough decision and I discussed it with all the players who were n with a chance. I'm sure I've woken up my wife yelling out names in my sleep."
Tommy Tolles, who was

knocked out of the automatic spots by Jeff Maggert's third place at Winged Foot, Paul Stankowski and Davis Duval all missed out due to lack of experience, while Kite did not think veterans such as Tom Watson and Payne Stewart were playing well enough. Half his team suggested Kite

was playing well enough, but though he believes it would be possible to be a playing captain, be ruled himself when he knew he could not qualify on points. "He's a great pick," Kite said of himself. "But he needed a good run to impress the captain and 19th was not high enough on the list."

Kite added: "We are behind the eight-ball because the Europeans know Valderrama like the back of their hands, but I think I have an impressive list of names. We know the competition is going to be tight and

Grabbed second cap with closing course record-equating 65 for third spot at US PGA. Only US Your wan was four years ago. Worn both his games on the first day of 1995 cup, but then lost his other two matches.

Lost 1989 Masters to Nick Falto after mea-ing two-foot putt on first play off hote. Earned over a \$1m last year and, helped by farmers-

Mark O'Meara (40)

Brad Faxon (36)

1 cap (1995; P3, W1 L2)

Lee Janzen (32)

Moment of triumph: Davis Love III is delighted as he wins his first major championship on Sunday at Winged Foot

Perseverance pays off as Love follows in his father's footsteps

Davis Love III's father always told his son "to follow his dreams and enjoy the trip". Davis Jnr was a teaching professional whose best finish in the USPGA Championship was a tie for 55th in 1967.

A third 66 of the week on Sunday gave Love a five-stroke victory over the Open champ-ion, Justin Leonard. "What a thrill for the son of a PGA member to win the PGA Champion-ship," Love said. "This was the best I've ever felt for four days with the pressure on."

After starting the final round level with Leonard, the 33-yearold American quickly opened a gap which was never narrowed to fewer than three strokes. A birdie at the last gave Love his first major championship as a rainbow emerged overhead.

Andy Farrell on the USPGA champion who is finally enjoying 'the trip'

Love's father, his only coach as he learned the game and embarked on a career on tour, died on a small-plane crash in Florida in 1988. "Every day I play golf I think about my dad," he said. "I know he will be extremely proud that I not only won a major, but the PGA.

"After my father passed away it was not a lot of fun for a couple of years. He had a lot of friends on tour and the conversations always led to my dad. Golf became more of a job, something that was not as much

fun for a while. "But if I was going to dedicate a victory to anyone, it would be my mum. She drove

me to tournaments as a kid and took me to the country club. She tried to fill my father's shoes in terms of spurring me on, and I didn't always want to know. But the way she coped after my father died was a great

inspiration." Love, whose brother Mark has caddied for him for eight years, was second at the 1995 Masters and '96 US Open.

"I have always thought it was nice that people thought I should be in a category of players who should win a major," he said. "It is even nicer to get out of it. There are some great players who should have won one



US RYDER CUP TEAM Jeff Maggert (33)

Tiger Woods (age 21)

Justin Leonard (25)

US Amateur champion in 1992 and star of Welker Cup ream which won by record 19-5 in 1993. Turned pro a year later and last morth little first major with closing 65 at Open.

Tour Leitmans (38)

Ryder cap record: 1 cap (1395; played 3, won Scott Hoch (41) - 2, lost 1)

Davis Love (33)

2 caps (1993-95; P9 W5 L4) Goes to Valderman inswing ended 11. year west one of geme's great putters, but massed amfor first major at the US PGA. Scored winning potent one to lose to David Gifford on final
point in 1993 by beating Costantino Rocca green in 1995 singles. Had shot closene 63
and got the better of him again but years ago; in US PGA to snatch cup place. Had first win
Burnner-up in 1995 Masters and lost 1996. for five years in New Orleans in April.

Jim Foryk (27)

Phli Mickelson (27) 1 cap (1995: P3 W3) World's best left-hander, Won 1990 US Am-1 cap (1995: P3 W3) where a rest series here than a soul of vir-slear and before turning pro had first US Tour-victory in Tucson. Ten more serice, including two this season, but still no majors. Not used in foursomes last time, but won both four-reals.

1 cap (1993: P2 L2) Made cup debut as US Open champion, but played only twice at The Bellay, losing both. Trase wars at 1995, but did not make cup Fred Comples (37)

4 caps (1989-91-93-95: P15 W5 H4 L7) Former world No.1 chosen as wild used. First-shed 17th in table after taking break to be with # father. Lost on timel green to Christy O'Connot no debut. Career begand by bank-problems arice winning 1992 Massiers.

Free tickets for fans unhappy at Johnson run

Athletics MIKE ROWBOTTOM

Michael Johnson's disappointing contribution to Sunday's night's Spar Challenge has prompted Ian Stewart, the British Athletic Federation's promotions officer, to offer satisfied customers free tickets for the Gateshead meeting

on 7 September. The double Olympic champion, racing in Britain for the first time in three years, finished fifth in the 200 metres in 20.87sec - more than one and a half seconds slower than his own world record - and then left before his scheduled 400m

Afterwards, the winner of the 200m, Doug Turner, cast doubt on Johnson's commitment to the race. "I don't think he could be bothered, to tell you the truth," Walker said. "At the end of the day he's here to please the crowd and

he's got his cheque." Johnson, who is believed to have received around \$70,000 (£44,000) for Sunday's meeting, did look bothered after the race, slumping down on his own in the warm-up area. But he abandoned the second of his

commitments on the night can come back in the indoor without either explanation or apology. Even for a star, not good PR.

Having persuaded Johnson to return to Britain after the dispute last year, when he refused to run at Crystal Palace after being switched from the 400m to the 200m, Stewart was in an awkward spot on Sun-

day night.
"It is a little bit disappointing," Stewart ventured. "If anyone writes to me to complain they will be given free tickets to Gateshead."

Stewart said he had been given to understand by Johnson's manager, Brad Hunt, that the world record holder was in reasonable form over 200m, even though he had not run the distance since two early-season

efforts. "He's obviously not in the shape he thought," Stewart said. "I think he put so much into the Athens world championships that he is tired."

But he ruled out any attempt being made to re-coup some of Johnson's appearance money. "A deal's a deal," he said.
"I believe in that. It's the first time Michael has run in England for a long while and he will be disappointed. Maybe he your eyes

season.

The fuss over Johnson obscured the fact that, but for a few isolated instances, the meeting lacked a competitive

edge.
Bringing Donovan Bailey, the Olympic 100m champion, over to wallop the Brits over 100m had only limited appeal Had Johnson run anything close to form, he would not have had no a serious challenger, either.

The field events provided the best athletic substance of the evening, with Steve Backley being narrowly defeated by the man who beat him to the world javelin title, Marius Corbett, and the Britons Robert Weir and Sean Pickering giving the world champion, John Godina, a throw for his money in the discus and shot,

respectively. But you would hardly have known it. More needs to be done to prime the spectators who did part with up to £18 apiece on Sunday. The faulty scoreboard was nothing less than an insult to every paying customer. The Spar Challenge on Sunday was to work out what was going on in front of

Rusedski ready to pull rank on Henman

Greg Rusedski, who reached the semi-final of the Pilot Pen International in New Haven, Connecticut last week has risen to 23 in the latest world rankings - just three places behind the British No 1, Tim Henman.

Henman, a quarter-finalist in New Haven, has also climbed one spot to No 20 but his points total of 1,616 is only 65 better than Rusedski, who has 1,551. It means that if Rusedski does well in Boston this week he could regain the British No 1

spot which he lost to Henman on 29 April 1996. Despite the two Britons' progress neither is likely to be seeded at the US Open which starts next Monday as all the world's top 20 have entered.

Monica Seles clinched a third

successive Canadian Open title when she defeated Anke Huber 5-2, 6-4 in the final in Toronto. Seles broke her German opponent's serve twice to take the opening set. Huber, though, recovered from 3-1 down in the second set to lead 4-3. Howev-

er she then lost her serve twice more as Seles completed her victory on Sunday in 75 minutes. For the 23-year-old Seles it was a second consecutive victory following her win in Los An-

geles last week and suggests she is finding her old consistency as well as giving herself excellent preparation for the US Open.

This is my favourite tournament, that's for sure," the world No 3 said. "I'm very glad that I did decide to come back and defend my title and I will come back next year too to try to keep the streak going. I wish I had a grand slam tournament here."

Seles in eight meetings, admit-ted that once again Seles had proved too strong. Yevgeny Kafelnikov won his second title of 1997 and rose to third in the ATP rankings by beating the eighth seed, Pat Rafter, 7-6, 6-4 in the International final

Huber, who has yet to beat

in New Haven, Connecticut. The ton seeded Russian won £100,000 while Rafter, who has lost all four of his ATP finals this year, settled for a consolation cheque of £50,000 and the knowledge that his run lifted him to a career high of 14th in the world as well as becoming the highest-ranked Australian, ing Mark Philippoussis.

Bjorn Borg won his second Mentadent Over-35 Champions tournament by beating the third-seeded Andres Gomez 6-3, 7-5 in the final in Mashpee. Massachusetts. Borg made only 11 unforced errors compared to

Quick start will keep British confidence high

Swimming

JAMES PARRACK reports from Seville

Success for the British swimming team at the European Championships here this week will depend upon their ability to make a strong start. The swimming competition begins this morning and Britain's performance today will set the tone for the event, which ends on Sunday.

Once the first swimmer wins a medal, everybody will want one, so a good start is crucial. The true character of a team overflowing with confidence, and capable of giving Britain its most successful championships ever, will be revealed when it is time stand on the blocks. Either medal fever will grip the team or that confidence will pass out of the squad as quickly as their energy did when a bout of stomach upsets put the squad to bed for two days last week.

Still recovering is one of Britain's best hopes for medals in the 100 and 200 metres butterfly, James Hickman, who is hooked up to a glucose drip to put back the weight he has lost from the illness.

the 100m freestyle, will be Karen Pickering and Sue Rolph. While Britain's Olympic silver medallist from Atlanta, Paul Palmer, will do the same for the men.

Among Britain's best prospects for gold are Palmer in the 400m freestyle on Friday and Stockport's Olympic bronze medallist, Graeme Smith, in the positive drugs test in 1993. 1,500m on Sunday - but it is the powerful relay squads which are likely to be the production line for medals this week, including gold. It is a conscious effort by Deryk Snelling, the national performance director, to build his squad around the relays.

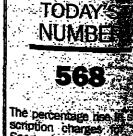
There are six medals to be won in the relays and we seriously hope to be medallists in all of them," he said yesterday. This is a team which has trained in Florida and Australia this year and is conditioned for good results." However well the British per-

form here, there is no doubt that most attention will fall on Ireland's triple Olympic gold medallist, Michelle Smith. Defending two titles from the last championships in Vienna in '95, she is trying to win an unprecedented six individual golds this year.

Smith has been unable to Leading the women's team in shake off allegations of drug use, the first event of the competition, which surfaced in Vienna and

grew in volume in Atlanta. The world of swimming could be thrown into turmoil if she won all six events. Smith's phenomenal progress began in 1994 and coincided with her partnership with Erik de Bruin, a former Dutch athlete, who was suspended for four years for a

A row between De Bruin and LEN, the sport's European goveming body, in Vienna (w) years ago, when De Bruin used a false identity to accompany Smith to doping control, has been re-solved after a hearing here and De Bruin has been accredited for these championships. ...



scription charges for Sports since the TV sale became subscription of September 1992 The hen was £2.99 per next month it go

مكذا من الاحل

Lindsay

upset at

Academy

exclusion

The game's ruling body is appealing to the government to

reconsider its exclusion from the projected academy of sport.

The Rugby League's chief executive, Maurice Lindsay, has

written to Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, who

announced over the weekend

that football, cricket and rugby

would not be catered for at the

new centre for the pursuit of

Lindsay yesterday. "I find it

bizarre that what are regarded

as commercial sports should be considered capable of looking

"Perhaps that case can be

"We were consulted by the

previous government about

what we would like to see in the

academy, so it never occurred

to us that we would be omitted.

Smith today and asked him to

look again at our situation. We

have been frustrated for 102

years by a lack of funding and

"I have written to Chris

made for football, with its ability

to attract massive finance, but

it doesn't apply to us.

"I'm just astonished," said

excellence.

after themselves.

Rugby <u>League</u> DAVE HADFIELD

takes shape US captain* (ite opts for experience

Wilkinson gets back to teaching

Phil Shaw finds the FA's technical director happy to be coaching again - and with the progress he sees towards a new age of enlightenment

Tony Blair famously articulated his chief priorities in government as education, education and education. In his dual rule as the Football Association's technical director and coach to the England youth team. Howard Wilkinson's principal aims can be similarly summarised: development, development and development.

Wilkinson donned the metaphorical tracksuit again yesterday - it was way too hot for synthetic fibres - for the first time since leaving Leeds United a vear ago. Supervising a five-day get-together for 40 of England's best Under-18 players at the National Sports Centre, at Lilleshall in Shropshire, his short-term target was to assess candidates for the opening Uefa Championship game against Yugoslavia at Rotherham.

The fixture falls on the aniniversary of his sacking by Leeds, 9 September, though Wilkinson has neither time nor inclination to look back in anger or sadness. His long-term mission, set out earlier this year in a report entitled Football Education for Young Players: A Charter for Quality, takes up too much of his energy for that.

Its main recommendation was the establishment of academies, to be based chiefly with-

Welsh team-mates about the re-

ception they will receive when

gifted adolescents could be nur-

tured into future internationals. The centres would not necessarily be residential, nor. Wilkinson stressed, were they intended to destroy schools foothall. And they certainly would not be a production line for what he termed "football monsters".

Instead, he envisaged places where 12 to 14-year-olds could improve their skills under a regime of "enlightened control", playing just one match a week and a maximum of 28 a season.

Liverpool, where Steve Heighway has overseen the de-velopment of Robbie Fowler. Steve McManaman, Dominic Matteo and now Michael Owen, have embraced the concept enthusiastically. With the government deciding that football would not be included in the proposed British Academy of Sport. it appears the onus is squarely on others to do likewise.

"My soundings suggest about 20 clubs are making progress," Wilkinson said, "The surprising thing is the number of (Nationwide) League teams doing it. They see the academies as a chance to compete on a level playing field, because it's all down to the quality of care,"

Under his scheme, youth development would become a crucially important profession rather than a lowly post given the past two years there's been



Back in the old routine: Howard Wilkinson puts England's Under-18 squad through their paces at Lilleshall yesterday

to someone as an afterthought. Each academy director would have to earn more comprehensive qualifications from the FA than a basic coaching certificate: Lancaster Gate would. in turn, act as a "service industry" furnishing the latest research findings,

"No longer can we get away with excuses about not having the time or the facilities, Wilkinson said. "We're going to provide those and, probably most importantly, continuity. In

a 50 per cent turnover of youth coaches at Premiership clubs, which is a nonsense. You wouldn't be too pleased if that happened with the teachers in your kids' school."

As evidence of how stability breeds success, he cited the unsung role of Eric Harrison, who has run Manchester Unitcd's youth policy since 1981. However, in the headlong

pursuit of success, with clubs needing to appease the Stock Exchange as well as supporters, isn't there a danger that clubs will pay

lip service to Wilkinson's vision and go on signing ready-made first-teamers? "I spoke to Sir John Hall at Newcastle and he said of course they'll still buy

"Yet he also told me that in 10 years' time he'd like to see 11 Geordies running round St James' Park in the Premier League. He said: Tve only got one stipulation - they have to be better than the foreigners we could buy.' There's no reason we can't do that in this country. The

we can't afford not to do it. Young players are our lifeblood." The proliferation of overseas stars would not last forever, Wilkinson insisted. "They'll go comewhere else. No disrespect,

but we don't want to be left like

cricket." To avoid that fate, the domestic game had to absorb the lessons of the Netherlands, Norway and Germany, where social circumstances were comparable in a way that Brazil or South Africa, with their culture of street football, people with nous recognise that were not. In those three countries

the authorities had recognised that for children, development was more important than winning

Photograph: Robert Hallam

goslavia would be no less welcome for Wilkinson, after so long out of the frontline. His exhaustive schedule meant there Rugby League is as far away as had been no time for withdrawal symptoms, but he had enjoyed working with players again. "It's a nice refreshing change." he said, no longer the haunted figure of a year ago, "like hav-ing a round of golf."

in their attempt to bring Paul Lambert back to Scotland. The

Parkhead side, desperate for re-

inforcements after a disastrous

start to their Scottish League

Premier Division campaign, were believed to have agreed a

a deal, while the player's agent,

Jim Melrose, was unimpressed

Notts County, currently lead-

ing the Third Division, have

been issued with a transfer em-

bargo from the Football League

after failing to pay players'

mund midfielder.

by the offer.

I really think that he has got it In a second disappointment For all that, victory over Yufor the code, it now seems that a compromise between Super League and the Australian

> Super League broke off peace talks in Australia yesterday, claiming that the ARL had demanded a degree of financial and administrative control over a merged compe-

tition that is unacceptable. St Helens' Great Britain centre, Alan Hunte, has intensified their problems by saying that he wants to leave the club.

Hunte has had one transfer request turned down but is adamant that he wants to leave while his agent claims that there is already interest from other clubs - which would not be surprising if a player of his class was

£2m fee for the Borussia Dort- to become available. Saints' chief executive, David However, Celtic's general Howes, said, however, that the club hoped to resolve Hunte's manager, Jock Brown, is now thought to have decided against

> The Leeds captain, Gary Mercer, has decided to appeal on Thursday against a fivematch ban for a high tackle. Mercer, who was summoned on video evidence, has already served one game of his sus-

Ses: I W Holder and M I Hama.

PAKISTAN A - First Innings 227 IP M Such

FIRST CLASS COUNTIES XI - First tunings 439 JA F Glies St., A P Grayson 77, G Walch 52, D L Herry 531.

FREST CLASS COUNTIES XI - Second busings J J B Lenus Due b Acher D L Maddy c Javed b Abbul 0 0 1 Hamp c Waym b Shookb 41

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPTONSHIP (Final day of brok Esmouth: Deson 243 and 21.4-5; Here-fordshire 145 and 243. Deven won by 69 runs. Camborne: Cornwall 69 and 247; Wales 248

First Class Countles XI v

Final day of three CHELMSFORD: First Class. Count Pakistan A by five vickuts. Pakistan A won toss

Tour match

Pakistan A

pension.

dissatisfaction and keep him at Knowsiey Road.

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and the contract of

Cup Group Seven match against Turkey tomorrow.
"It's an assonishing place." REDER CUP III are the little of the

Eng : Mes: 4"

feat fair 3

. 10 March 1841.

said the Nottingham Forest striker, who scored 21 goals in 28 games for Galatasaray in the 1995-96 season. "The place is just deafening. It frightens the life out of opponents and it was pretty awesome for the home side too. "You get the lot. Guns, flares.

fireworks, amazing chanting and singing, and it goes on and on. Frankly, it's unsafe. People are just packed in there, and the police just whack them if they

Athletics
SPAR BRITISH CHALLENGE: MEN: 100m: 1
D Badey (S) 10.13sec; 2 V Henderson (IS)
10.22; 2 D Chambers (Y) 10.31; 4 (Mucleo
(SB) 10.30; 5 M Decorsh (Y) 10.31; 4 (Mucleo
(SB) 10.36; 7 (Luvingston (SB) 10.57; 8 D
Sobb (Guest) 10.67; 7 (Luvingston (SB) 10.57; 8 D
Sobb (Guest) 10.67; 7 (Luvingston (SB) 10.57; 8 D
Sobb (Guest) 10.67; 7 (Luvingston (SB) 10.37; 7 B
Bobb (Guest) 12.21; 2 R Toman (International Select)
(SB) 13.21; 2 R Toman (International Select)
(SB) 13.21; 2 R Toman (International Select)
(SB) 45.08ec; 2 R Robinson (IS) 13.73; 4 k
Radier-Mup (Guest) 13.74; 5 C Peds (IS) 13.78;
6 D Gessues (Young Lons 2000) 13.9; 7 B
Bode (IS) 14.21; 400m Hurdles; 1) Woodey (S) 49.08ec; 2 R Robinson (IS) 49.60; 3
C Reminson (GS) 50.04; 4 G Cordogen (Guest)
50.40; 5 C Robertson-Adoms (Y) 50.43; 6 M
Douglas (Y) 130.77; 7 P Gray (Guest) 51.05;
8 G Jennings (GB) 52.03; 3,000ms; 1 Maycek (GB) 7 mm 50.48; 2 M Carroll (IS) 7.51,12;
3 A Passey (GB) 7.54,12; 4 7 Northly (S)
7.57,29; 5 R Whalley (Y) 7.57,63; 6 D Bursons (Y) 7.55 D.1, 4 x 400m Relay; 1 Great
Britant (R Back, M Hyton, J Baulch, I Thomasi
302,73; 2 International Select (ID Clane, 7
Wheeler, K Hamden, B Woodscard) 3:03.00; 3
Guests (S Insalow, H Morgaryetski, J Woody, G
Hanghout, 3:04.93;
WOMER: 100ms; 1 5 Fynes (IS) 11.19ec; 2
W Frazer (S) 11.47; 3 S Jacobs (GB) 11.56;
4 M Richardson (GB) 11.66; 5 S Anderson (Y)
11.65; 6 T Nelson (Y) 11.80, 400ms; 10 Freeman (IS) 50.61; 2 A Curnishley (GB) 51.04; 3
D Frazer (GB) 52.10; 4 G Armandort (IS) 52.89;
2 M Frazer (T) 52.98; M Thomas (Y) 53.74;
3 S Delshurth (IS) 40.85; 4
H Parry (Y) 4:08.98; 5 R Meagher (IS)
4:09.52; 6 J Amthelia (GB) 4:07.50; 2 J Power
16(GB) 4:07,74; 3 S Delshurth (IS) 4:08.85; 4
H Parry (Y) 4:08.98; 5 R Meagher (IS)
4:09.52; 6 J Amthelia (GB) 4:07.50; 2 J Power
16(GB) 4:07,74; 3 S Delshurth (IS) 52.89;
5 M Ferrer (T) 52.98; M Thomas (Y) 53.74;
6 M Peters (T) 52.98; M Thomas (Y) 53.74;
7 M Peters (T) 52.98; M Thomas (Y) 53.74;
7 M Peters (T) 52.98; M Thomas (Y) 53.74;
8 M Peters (T) 5

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 10 Minnesota SAMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 10 Minnesota 5: Secrete 5 Chicago White Sox 3 ; 1st match): Chicago White Sox 4 Seattle 2 (2nd match): Coronto 10 Cherland 5: Detroit 8 kansas Cay Voronto 10 Cherland 5: Detroit 8 kansas Cay York Yankees 8 Texas 0: Milwaukee 5 Dak-York Yankees 8 Texas 0: Milwaukee 5 Dak-

Basebali

Dean Saunders has warned his dare to go anywhere near the pitch. They just wade in and they get away with it.
"The police are fans too.

Saunders' warning

they enter Istanbul's Ali Sami The one thing you don't do is Yen Stadium for their World cross them. That's mad." Northern Ireland have yet to

tomorrow. Steve Morrow, who Hamilton turned to Jain Dowie and Tommy Wright, and Jim Magilton are the two candidates. Dowie is suspended while Wright is injured for the game which Northern Ireland must win to retain their slim hopes of

qualification. "I've not made up my mind

SPORTING DIGEST

Equestrianism

manager John Aldridge.

Bryan Robson, the Middle

Football

yet because an obvious captain hasn't jumped out at me," the manager said. "That's not a criticism, because a major plus for us is the fact is that we have so many natural leaders."

The former Watford striker decide who their captain will be David Connolly, who is now when they play Germany a with Feyenoord, is guaranteed Group Nine qualifier in Belfast his place in Republic of Ireland with Feyenbord, is guaranteed Martin Edwards, said: "There the defender - who turned side against Lithuania at Lansled the side briefly before Bryan downe Road tomorrow. Connolly, who scored a hat-trick has not issued a writ. against Liechtenstein in May. will probably be partnered by Niall Quinn after Keith O'Neill was ruled out.

With four games to go in Group Eight, the Republic, Lithuania and Macedonia are end of last season, is believed level on points behind Romania.

SCOTTESH OP'EN HORSE TRIALS CHAMPION-SHIPS (Thirlestane Castle, Louder): 1 Word Perfect II IC Bartlet 38 pts: 2 Cosmopolitan il NW Fox Prut 39; 3 King Soomon III (M King) 40.

Shaun Teals is aiming to resurrect his straint least is alming to resulted the career with the Hong Kong side Sing Tao having after he joined them on a three-month loan deal from Tranmere. The 33-

year-old centre-back, a £450,000 signing from Aston Villa two years ago, has fallen out of favour with Tranmere

ager, goes into hospital today for an an-ide operation. The former Manchester

United seek Cantona deal

Eric Cantona and Manchester United are in talks over a final pay-off demand, reported to be ca shirts bearing his name.

tween us and Eric's lawver. Jean-Jacoues Bertrand, Eric

tona products from 31 July."

Cantona, who retired at the to be seeking a six-figure sum.

United last year - in his team for the opening game at the Reehok Stadium on 1 Sentem-

Bolton are to sign the South

African centre-half Mark Fish

in a £2m deal from the Italian

side, Lazio. Colin Todd, the

ber, when they face Everion. Bolton have also finally secured the signature of Peter Beardsley, whose £300,000 transfer from Newcastle was agreed yesterday. He looks set

Britannic Assurance

Final day of four

County Championship

Nottinghamshire v Somerset

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottingnemente (11pts) drew with Somerset (10).

SOMERSET - First Innings 337 (P.C.L. Hollowsy ??, R.J. Tumer 55; A.R. Dram 4-53).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE – First Irmings 356 (A A Metcalle 79).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - Second Innings M.P. Downer b Rose

es: J H Hampshire and J H Hams.

Gloucestershire worr toss GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First Innings 320 (R I Dawson 98; M A Robinson 5-66).

SUSSEX - First inclings 324 N R Taylor 74. M T E Pence 73, P Moores b Devis 65; R P Davis 4-35).

Sussex v Gloucestershire HOVE: Gloucestershire (23pts) best Sus-sex (7) by 186 runs.

stone à Shane

R T Robinson c Ecclestone b Share N I Astle Boy b Mushtaq "P Johnson b Mushtaq C M Toley c Rose b Mushtaq A A Metcalfe c Caddich b Rose

C M Tolley C Hose D Musmand
A A Metsacife b Caddich b Rose
U Azzari run our
'fW M Noon not out
F J Frans run our
K P Evens Bow b Caddich
A R Oram not out

SOMERSET - Second limings (Overnight: 248 for 4)

to make his debut at Coventry on Saturday.

Swedish international's outburst against manager George Graham yesterday, in which he accused Graham of trying to Bolton manager, hopes to have kick him out of Leeds. Brolin is now certain to find down a trial at Manchester himself frozen out permanent-

Fish set to join Bolton

Leeds United are to take in-

ternal disciplinary action against

Tomas Brolin following the

ly, with Graham likely to step up his bid to try and sell him and recoup some money before the Bosman ruling takes effect. Barnsley are to hold talks with West Ham's unsettled

striker lain Dowie today in a bid to persuade the Northern Ireland international to move to

Celtic appear to have failed

signing-on fees. CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Total (77 overs) 161 Felt 1-2, 2-109, 3-128, 4-130, 5-135, 6-142, 7-147, 8-156, 9-160.

Bowling: Smith 5-1-11-0; Lewis 8-2-34-1; Davis 29-13-35-4; Ball 30-7-66-5; Alleyne 5-3-10-0. Unspires: B Leadbeater and K E Painer. Worcestershire v Glamorgan WORCESTER: Worcesturshire (24pts) best Gamorgan (6) by 54 runs. Worcestershire won toos WORCESTERSHIRE - First landings 479 (T S Curts 250, G A Hick 65).

GLAMOREAN - First lankes 398 (M P May-nard 161no, S P James 69). WORCESTERSHIRE - Second Innings (Overright: 283 for 7) W P C Weston c Shaw b Croft W P C Weston c Shee' b Croft 114
S R Lampet red out 18
M M Muss and out 19
A Shenyer c Croft b Wedger 9
Edwar (M13, 48, holl) 31
Total (104.5 overs) 286
Fall (conf. 8-277, 9-278, 19-

Total (78.3 overs) 319
Pate 1-115, 2-135, 3-152, 4-152, 5-230, 6-269, 7-300, 9-309.
Bousting Strenger 62-12-0, Micro 13.3-1-63-3; Hick 12-3-38-0, Micro 22-3-105-7; Jampet 5-0-36-0; Haynes 12-1-34-2; Leathertiale 6-0-23-1.
Umplines: D J Constant and R A Write. Hampshire v Yorkshire

PORTSMOUTH: Hampshire (Spts) drew with Yorkshire won toss

HAMPSHIRE – First innings 281 (R A Smith 110, M L Hayden 88; P M Hutchson 7-50).

8-410, 9-484.
Bowling: Hamitton 27-5-89-5; Hutchson 30-6-95-2; White 21-5-85-1; Stemp 30-10-81-0; Moms 13-4-24-0; Vaughan 15-0-92-0; Leimmann 5-16-1; Parier 1-0-3-0, Umpires: J D Bond and B Dudlesson. County Championship table

Somerstet (11)...12 2 2 8 28 44128 Notts (17)12 3 2 7 13 43125 Hants (14)13 2 4 7 33 30116 Northents (16)...12 2 4 6 21 33104 Derhant (18)13 1 7 5 21 44 96 Derhyaltre (2) ...13 1 6 5 20 44 96

Tetley's Challenge Series Keut v Australia Final day of three

Caerihorner Corneal 89 and 247; Wales 246 for 9 and 80 for 2. Wales won by eight discients. Barrow, Northumberland 298 for 4 and 185; Camberland 294 for 7 and 173 for 4. Cumberland won by six wichests, issued school for 2 Hers 226-3. Starting today MEMOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (two days, 11.0): Trurce Cornell v Herefordship. Brewoods

idence high

t will keep

BOWIS ENGLISH MEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS Middling Champion of champions final: A Jackson iBroadway, Woresslessmer bit R Dykes iRoker Menne, Sunderland: 21-20. NATIONAL CLIB FOURS Semi-finals: Desborough Town. Northants of Greenhal, Dose193-35. Liberty of Havering, Essa bit Holingbury Park, Sussea 46-29; Final: Desborough Town to Liberty of Havering Essa bit Holingbury Park, Sussea 46-29; Final: Desborough Town to Liberty of Havering Essa bit Holingbury Park, Sussea 46-29; Final: Desborough Town to Liberty of Havering 32-31 MEN'S FOURS First round: Romation is Proford: bit Desborough Town, Northants II Hamers 18-16; Bolton IR Milling it Plyroouth North Down IG Lawrence! 29-19; Sannen, Cambria (T Bowerbank) bit Loughborough (K Spibly) 24-19; Samdon Westlerch is Warren) bit Shepherds Bush CC IS Tuchy 21-15; Creater Road, Wordsstersher I, Lones; in Hodongs Lare, Norts: II Farmer! 23-22; Balsham, Cambridgeshire IP Linganth in Story Stratford, Bucks IN Vickers) 23-31; Behediere, Hamis IP Jassop bit Stenakers, Commail IN Stephens) 15-14; Banbury Borough (G Moon Ind. bit Gateshead (A Preobabid 21-11; Lincoln St Gles OB Brown) bit Ponsmouth CS (C Hayward 2018; Garsson, Herts (J Summens) bit Swanscombe, Kent (R Howeld) 23-12; Cranley RB. (M Overngon) bit Stroud, Giouss. (D Housel 26-13; Sandy Town, Beds (D Menning) bit Wellworthy, Donset (S Broe) 20-13; Cevedon, Somerset (G Likert in White Rock, Sussea, IS Jeapes) 19-11; Shandon I ow IS Hamborn bit Leominster (F Williamson) 28-15; Boumemouth (C Dowling) bit Ringshorpe, Northampton if Walker 21-18; Scorier, Lincs of R Robinson) bit Cores Medicine IP Dunstain 21-19; Southwork, Sussey, (T Stevens) bit Strratees 19-18; Tottee, Devon II Wischam) bit Cornel 19-18; Roiges 10-19-18; Tottee 10-19-18; Holing Centre (S Harrier) 20-19; Stohe Covently, Warnerland (R Brown) 20-19; Stohe Covently, Warnerland (B Jerobrithe 10-19-18; Bouley (I Dunsta) bit Bulmer, Herstordshre IR Pernyl 25-7. end 2. -MATIONAL LEAGUE: Houston 11 Philadelphy & Cotorado & New York Mers 2; Chicago C; 3 & San Dago 5; San Francisco 3 Montreal 6; Flanda 10 Philadelphy 2: Chromost 5 Los Angeles 0; St Louis 3 Augusta 1 TODAY'S FIXTURES

•	WHEN THE PARTY
Football	(7.45): DO
. The standard	Handfi V E35
7.30 unless stated at CHAMPIONSHIP	iner Herris
7.30 unless stated ELECTRICAL UNDER-21 CHAMPTONSHIP	1400 ST.
CHOUP SEVEN	Rogitalii V
Turkey v Wales (6.30)	DR MART
Tarkey v Weles (6.30) (at India studium, Islambul)	Armini V
COOKID FIGHT	-may v MOC
Resubile of Ireland v Lithmonia	Burgon APM
Republic of Heady, Dublin) (# Dalymount Park, Dublin) SCOTTISH COCA-COLA CUP THIRD ROUND	7-mail/1017
HE CONTROL OF LOUR CUP THERE HOUSE	GR
SCOTTISH COCA-TOLA COTTISH COCA-TOLA CO	and the second
	VIV Deliverance
HEIDT V NEED LIKE (7.45)	
Cettic (7.45)	
AL JOHNSON	
	5-0-3 (2011)
	don v News
	6 Mehinny
	6 Mehiloper
	PATERTINEK
	Blescyrch v
V Agestury, Bished's Stortland V Lagsman, Car- Rederings; Bramley v Warton & Hershort, Car- Rederings; Bramley v Warton & Hershort, Hamlet, Yearshort; Entlett / Dulmon Hershorts	Rushall Ohn
Barbaridas Bromits v Warren D. Arnot Hamilet	ough; knyo
TARREST A LIGHT A LIGHT A LIGHT A LIGHT A LIGHT A LIGHT AND A LIGH	U Halesoner
Shafton v Destinated v Hendon: St Graveseno & NorthBeet v Hendon: St Sayfts v Oxford City: Hincon v Angestonian; Abust Sayfts v Oxford City: Hincon v Angeston; Abust Sayfts v Oxford City: Hincon v Angestonian; Abust Sayfts v Oxford City: Hincon v Oxford City: Hinc	Lands Police
A PARK HICKORY	u Walenhali:
" Selic V County State Plant Devoted Bil-	JEWSON W
AUSTIN LITT	
CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF	
Mentaly: Carrotted v Startes, Northlet v	
den Toert v Leature v Wokenstam: Grass Routhord v Routhor Hampton v Stantes vernbley v Ushretze: Thame v Barton Rovers (T. 45), Sectionary (T. 45), Section Rovers (T. 45), Se	WHITE COLUMN
Habitata (Interior and Interior Interior	THE PARTY I

Leightore Withsmay Challors St Peter, Tisked Ob-visions Aveloy v Lewes; Clapron v Epsom & Ewel (7.45); Dortang v Coordinan Casuals; Flackwell Health v East Thurnoth; Hernes Hempstead v Her-lor, Hernford v Kingsbury, Ware v Croydon Ath-tero. Inthinien Charity Shield: Yeovil v Careham Vilnod.

hmilen Charry State Charry Whool.

TENS LEAGUE Presider Division: St Leonards Stamcoll (7.45): Albertissesser Borrisgose v Barl Cby (7.45): bon v King's Livry. Cambridge Cot v Consister v Forest Green Rovers stey Rosest v Holestower Town: History Common v Heelthy Tydil v Sakshun; Nunearon (7.45): Bildeand Divisioner, Nunearon (7.45): Bildeand Divisioner, Nunearon (7.45): Suttor Coldridd v Tydil (7.45): Suttor Coldridd v Tydil (7.45): Suttor Coldridd v Tydil (3.64): Suttor Coldridg v Tydil (3.64): Suttor C poor APC: Pieer Sandrage
prode v Creenratord 17.4St. Troubndge
th: Waserloadle v Bashley.
K EURESS MEDIAND ALLIANCEPershare; boldmer St Michaels v
proper; lung's Norton v Stapheni Borproper; lung's Norton v Stapheni Borproper; lung's Norton v Stapheni Michaels v
proper; lung's Norton v Stapheni Michaels v
proper; lung's Norton v Stapheni Michaels v
Pershare V Chaestovert; Stratford
E: Wedtresleid v Bridgmerh.
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E: Wedtresleid v Bridgmerh. Wednesleid V Brass and V Down-FESSEX LEAGUE: Andruet v Down-FESSEX LEAGUE: Andruet v Down-FESSEX LEAGUE: Andruet v Down-TS v Acrostructures; Borresmouth

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEASUE First Divi-sions Atherton LR v Chedderton; Burscough v Bischpool Rivers; Datwen v Mossiey (7,45); Hasingden v Gissops, Rossandale v Solton; Vau-hall Glid v Namberd; Warmigton v Nevossite Town,

LATEST WORLD RANGINGS: 1 T Woods (US) 10. 7805; 2 G Noman (Aus) 10.22; 3 E Es (Rs) 9.55; 4 N Price (Jim) 9.64; 5 C McHagneries 15co) 9.39; 6 T Listman (US) 8.56; 7 P Mich-elson (USA) 8.31; 8 M Ozaki (Japan) 7.85; 9 O Live III (USA) 7.51; 10 M O'Meara (USA) 8.53;

Heargean Vestabler, Varangion v Nevassia from, lat Gal v Namback, Warnigton v Nevassia from, ARNOTT RESERVANCE NORTH-EIN LEAGUE First Divisions Durston FB v Numor, Stockon v Buling-ham Town.

114 SPORT United Counsias League Pressian Divisions Desborough v Stamboth Ford Sports v North-motion Search; Holbach v Buring Ling Buckly v Hernyston; Mintes Blackstine v Bosson Town, Potton v Wellingborough; St. Nects v Yas-ley, Stevents & Loyds Corb v Stochick Woot-ton v Buckingham Town.

114 STATE PERCENSION OF STATE Find Divi-sions: Peacehaven & Telscombe v Eastboums Town: Ringham to Languey Sports: Selesy v Lu-terangions of Languey Sports: Selesy v Lu-v Partheld; Heisham v Burgess HB. Warstrown-Laph (KBM LEAGUE; Foliestone in-ucts v Swanley Furess 17, 49); Coarthigh v Lord-wooth Ramagae v Chatham; Sado Genn v Deaf Turbhodge Weils v Hydre; Whistable v Sheppey (7, 45).

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor Cty v Weshpool.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Wetshoool.

LEAGURE OF WALLESS SANGOT CRY V WESTHOOD.
POINTINS LEAGURE First Division; Wolves v Port
Vals 17.00.
AYON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Assertal v Portsmouth (2.0); Crystal Palace
v Watdord (2.0) for Pluigh Lane!; Williams v West,
Ham (2.0). Other sports SOUNLS: EMBA National Championships (Morthing).

TENGOS; (JA Saleikie tournamant (Havent),

United's chief executive,

as high as £750,000, to reward him for money made on repliare discussions going on be-

"When he left us he was concerned about us continuing to market his name. We agreed we would not market Eric Can-

19 B Langer IGEN 5-517, 201 Woodnam (Wal 5-30).

AMERICAN EXPRESS TOUR ORDER OF MERITIGATE Westating Woodn's British Open) (68 or id unitees stated); 1 M-1 De Levero Frai 5-66, 116: 2 A Nacholes 160, 235; 3 H Attredson (5we) 157, 462; 4 C Sorenstam (5we) 148,976; 5 A Sorenstam (swe) 142,800; 6 Limitees 160,2617; 7 A Marshel 641,127; 8 K Lurn Just) 140,817; 9 P. Meurier-Letouc Frai 140,176; 10 T Johnson 126,492; 11 L Hackney 144,267, 121 Devets 124,267. Solinain Curp standings: 1 De Lorenz 57,50pts; 2 Meurier-Letouc 34,50; 3 Nicholas 33; 4 Miredson 31,50; 5 Johnson 31; 6 Mortey 27,50; 7 C Sorenstam 26; 8 L Factouspy 158; 9 Dowes 21,50; 10 M Sustan 20; 11 Hackney 19; 12 M Hjorin (Swe) 18,77.

kle operation. The former Manchester United and England player has suffered wear and tear over the years and a sur-Rugby League geon has advised an operation at this geoti has outreed in operation of the stage.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER: Kansas Chy Wizards
3 New York-New Jersey MethoStars 3 (Kansas Chy ear shoot out 2-01: San Jose Casa 3 Los Angeles Galany 2.

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULTS: World Cup African Zans Group Das (Combiny): Gurres 1 Nigere O. Group Two (Ceirot Egypt 5 Libers 0; ffunish; Tunesa 4 Nambas 0. Group Four (Leané): Togo 1 Angela 1. Group Five (Acera) Ghana O Siene Loore 2.

cos 34 Hunger Marners 16.
SIMDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Stones Super Lacque: Castleford (16) 35, 5t Helens (16) 16. Castleford: Tries Criticity 2, Cay, Linden, C Smith: Bookle Daks 6, Orn. Prop Daks. St Helens: Tries Hargh 2, Nowlove; Goals Long 2, 15-909t, London, Broncha 16) 8. Leeden Stones 149 2, Stefing 2, Blackmore, Hunns, Goals: Harns 4, Holmyd 2, London, Tree Brakell, Grads, Browlet 2, Q. 1564. Ingles I.

Ingles I.

POSTPONED MATCHES: Nationwide League;
set 20 Augs Wrestom v Misheat, Beilf's Scottish League: Men 1. Sopt: Nimemock v Mothervel playing Sun 31 Aug).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND IRIDER-21. TEAM (European Under-21. Championship v Litisassia,
Dalymount Park, Dubles, tonightip Mamphy
(Wimbledon); Maher (Tottecham). Wormsi
(Bacdount), Guian (Crystal Palsee), Ryem Blocdersfield), Finnas (Notis Courty), Bolland
(Cosetty), Fernelly (Centon), Killsman (West
Bromstoh), Fernell (Centon), Dalagi (Cariste).
Substitution: Dempsey (Bohemore): McDonmell (UCD), Morgan (St Pares's Albieter, Isman (Peerstorough), R Kelly (Manchesar Cay).

Motor racing

INDY CAR RACE (Bithert Lake, Wasconsin):

1 A Zanard //) Reykard Honda. 50 Laps competed. 102-955 mpn (154 kph); 2 M (ugeham (8xx) Reykard-Honds. 50; 3 Ge Ferran (8xx) Reykard-Honds. 50; 4 C Rimpativ (8xx) Swift-Ford. 50; 5 Ge S Paulat (USS Reykard-Honds.); 16 S Paulat (USS Reykard-Honds.); 16 M Blundel (GB) Reykard-Mercedes. 47, ergene; 25 D Franchion (Sco) Reykard-Mercedes. 15, crash.

Squrash
WORLD GANES (Lahti, Fin): Men's finat: A
Basida Egy by D Ryen (if) 9-4 9-3 9-4. Bronze
media (addier: G Rydra (Car) by M Carre Engl
10-8 9-1 9-3. Women's finat: Riz-Gerald (Vus)
tr S Schoene (Ger) 9-2 9-5 9-7. Bronze media
decider: I. Joyce (NZ) br S Wight (Engl 9-4 109 9-2.

REA CHAMPIONSHIPS (Indianapolia) Final: J Bjorkman (Swei bt C Moya (Spi 6-3 7-8. ATP INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT (Con-necticut) Final: Y Kateinkov (Rus) bt P Refter (Aus) 7-8 6-4. DU MAURER OPEN WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT (Toronto, Con) Final: M Seles (US) to A Hu-ber (Gor) 6-2 6-4.

ber (Ger) 6-2 8-4.

MENITADENT CHAMPIONS OVER-35 TOURNAMENTADENT CHAMPIONS OVER-35 TOURNAMENTADENT CHAMPIONS OVER-35 TOURNAMENT (Mastipne, Messachusettig: Finot B Borg.
(Swe) bt A Gomes' (God) 6-3 7-5.

LTA SUBMER SATELLITE MASTERS (Hammit):
Fiest round: D Lobb (GB) bt A Foster (GB) 6-3

4-2 relited: A Partiar (Aus) bt N Mender (Ger)

6-3 6-1 O Freelow (GB) bt V Versignassgroven
(Ind) 2-8 7-5 8-4 D Roberts (SA) bt P Meags
(GB) 8-1 5-7 8-1: 6 Natesiar (Ind) bt N White
(Rea) 6-3 6-3; A Wit (US) bt A Turner (N2) 4-6

6-3 7-6: S Sweets (Aus) bt J Dévédon (GB) 7-6

7-6: J Shortali INZ) bt R Loe! (USA) 7-6-7-6.
ATP TOUR RANKINGS: 1 P Sentons (US)
5-89(ns; 2 M Ching (US) 3-502; 3 Y Kalenikov (Rus) 2-693; 4 6 Monisoste (China) 2-614;
5 T Musier (Rus) 2-56; 6 A Contrag (Sp) 2-36;
7 5 Bruguera (Sp) 2-342; 8 C Moya (Sp) 2-273;
9 6 Kusten (Bra) 2-282; 10 M Pist (Chin 2-172;
11 T Engvist (Swe) 2-043; 12 F Montalin (Sue)
1-966; 13 B Beoletin (Ger) 1-918; 14 P Pinter
(Aus) 1-831; 15 M Philippousite val) 1-759;
16 P Kontali (C, Red) 1-757; 17 A Costs (Sp)
1-748; 18 J Bondman (Swe) 1-742; 19 R Knjicek (Neth) 1-702; 20 T Harman (GB) 1-616;
21 A Mediadev (Un) 1-566; 22 T Woodbinds
(Aus) 1-578; 23 G Ruseriski (GB) 1-551 (Obor Britisch: 1-59 M Pistinsy 279; 190 A Rehardson 256; 193 C Wismon (229; 248 D Sapebrd
171; 274 M Lee 1-42; 302 J Delgado 121; 319
M MacLagan 109; 384 N Weal 80.
Axel Meyer-Wölden, the Munich Lawyer Axel Meyer-Wolden, the Munich lawyer

has died yesterday in Munich. He was

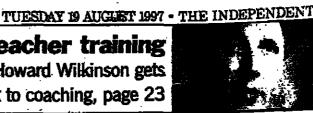
Daws 4-35), GLOUCESTERSHEEE — Second Innings (Overnight 271, for 6) IR C Russell not out — 69 MC I Bail o Pence b Robinson — 25 A M Smith not out — 2 Edras (Bo P. 105, 1612) — 26 Total (for 7 dec. 100.4 evens) — 331 Fall (cont): 7-322. Did not last: R P Daves, J Lewel. Bowling, Javes 11.1-42-2; Edwards 10-1-39-0; Bates 15-1-48-0; Renards 7-3-9-1. LEADING FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES

e	DAIIITE										DUTILING							
6	. н	ſ	No	Runs	HS	Ave					0		R	W	Ava			
3	S.P.James13	50	3	1450	162	85.29				0	P M Hutchison85.5			20	12.35	_	1	7.38
3	D S Lehmann12					73,87				0	Saglein Mushtag 198,1				16.75			5-17
ř	RT Portong7				127	73.00				0	A M 5mm,397,2				17.47			6-45
:	N C Johnson11.				150	67.75				Ð	M C 8001212.5		594	33	18.00	1	_	7-59
ŧ 1	M R Ramprakash 14	21	3	1188	190	66.00				0	A A Donald296,3		723	40	18.07	2	_	6-55
	M T G Elicot 11	17	Ð	1075		63,23				D	P R Reiffel , 189.4			28	18.57	2	-	5-49
:	G A Hick13	20	4	976		61.00				Q	K D James161.1			27	18.66	2		8-49
•	SR Waugh12	15	0	<i>8</i> 96		59.73				0	D R Brown ,368.3			60	19.66	2	1	8-89
٠,	M L Haydan13	23	3	1188	235*	59,40				a	P1 Maran383,3	117	1021	51	20.01	3	1	8-32
,	R J Turner12	19	7	674	83*						5 K Warne	95	1065	53	20.09	4	0	7-10
- 1	M P Maynard13				161*	55.53	2	3	16	0	Azhar Mehmood290.5	66	829	40	20.72	1	0	5-66
•	M A Eatham13			775	139					٥	D E Maiçolm447,3	73	1443	68	21.22	5	2	6 23
- 1	5 G Law12				175	55.33	3	5	14	0	JP Hawat326 .7	4	1000	47	21.27	2	0	6-14
: 1	B F Smith9				131*	55,11	2	1	3	0	G D McGrath325,4	95	903	42	21.50	1	٥	8-38
: 1	P J Prichard13				224	55.11	3	8	8	0	G D Rose352 10	Ю.	1068	49	21.79	1	O	5-53
1	R C Russeli15				103*	54.66	1	6	43	4	B J Philips166.5	45	513	23	22.30	1	0	5-47
. 1	J.J.B Lewis13				210	54.20	3	4	8	0	Wagar Younis 289 5	6	992	44	22.54	2	ò	8-17
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Red faces as McGeechan rebuffs RFU

Rugby Union

Ian McGeechan, haloed hero of the Lions' epic Test series victory over the Springboks earlier in the summer, yesterday turned his back on the laughably mishandled free-for-all surrounding the England coaching job. The Yorkshire-born Scot's decision left Jack Rowell the much-maligned incumbent, firmly entrenched on the moral high ground and the Rugby Football Union's newly installed hierarchy cringing with well-

earned embarrassment. McGeechan advised members of the RFU's national playing committee of his withdrawal from the running a mere 24 hours after Fran Cotton, the high-profile vice-chairman of Twickenham's management board, was quoted as describing him as "the one option for England coach". Cotton was also reported to have identified "weaknesses" in Rowell's armour, namely his approach to selection and man-management - a fairly withering condemna-

tion in anyone's language. Not surprisingly, Rowell was deeply upset by the outburst, just as he was when his job was being hawked nakedly around the southern hemisphere dur-

ing the build-up to the one-off Test with Australia in July, and he discussed the matter with Cotton yesterday afternoon. If the RFU now decide to stick with the status quo after plumbing the depths of crass insensitivity - they might look at their own man-management skills before criticising those of other people - they will have to bring a charm offensive to the

negotiating table as well as a new contract for Big Jack. Rowell's current deal expires on Sunday week, two days after the RFU are scheduled to reach a final decision on who will fill the most important post in the English game.

McGeechan's "thanks, but no thanks" decision leaves Rowell head and shoulders above any other British candidate in terms of experience and success at international level and it may well be that he will be asked to see his country through to the 1999 World Cup.

He was a paragon of diplomacy yesterday, saying merely that he remained keen to continue at the helm. "Over the last two years we've cut away some of the undergrowth and are seeing the green shoots emerge as a result," he said. "Tve made no demands whatsoever to the RFU or anyone else. Everyone knows that I have a number of

business interests outside of at Franklins Gardens. One Engrughy and that those interests land insider painted a different require a great deal of attention. but I remain hopeful that some balance can be struck." There was no word at all from

McGeechan, whose reasons for rejecting the RFU head-hunters remained a matter of conjecture. His lucrative contract with Northampton, where he remains director of rugby, still has six years left to run and the heavy compensation demands of Keith Barwell, the club's millionaire owner, were an obvious sticking point. Indeed, Barwell had been adamant throughout the whole sorry episode that his man would stay

picture, however. "Perhaps he saw the way Jack had been treated and decided the penny wasn't worth the candle," he

"If this situation had been allowed to develop in a business environment, heads would have rolled long ago - and I'm not talking about Jack's head, either. It's been pathetic, to be honest with you. It's been like waiting for a man to go to the gallows for no reason apart from the fact that he challenged people who were too used to life in the

Last night, the RFU put out

and his fellow national playing committee members would "continue their discussions with Jack Rowell and other candidates for the position". Those candidates include Richard Hill, the Gloucester coach who played under Rowell at Bath, and two current Bath coaches, Andy Robinson and Clive Woodward. John Mitchell, Sale's successful import from

Antipodeans are not, however, flavour of the month with the RFU's influential traditionalist lobby. Bob Dwyer, who coached Australia to the 1991 World

consideration.

New Zealand, is also under

a statement saying that Cotton Cup and guided Leicester to Pilkington Cup victory last season, was contacted by the RFU some months ago, as was Graham Henry, the tactical mastermind behind the Super 12 champions Auckland, as recently as carry July, but the popular view at Twickenham is that English rugby is not yet ready for a south-

ern hemisphere culture shock. Whatever the outcome, the new domestic season will kick off on Saturday with the RFU smelling of anything but roses. Conspiracy or cock-up? As one Rowell supporter put it yesterday: "It's a bit of both. Basically. the RFU has managed to cock up their own conspiracy."

Davis and Ball show way to top

Cricket

HENRY BLOFELD reports from Hove Gloucs 320 & 331-7dec Sussex 324 & 161 Gloucs win by 166 runs

After the second spirited part-nership of the match between Toby Peirce and Neil Taylor had taken Sussex to within sight of a draw, their middle order collapsed miserably against the accurate and persevering spin of Richard Davis and Martyn Ball, and the 23 points Gloucesmatch has taken them to the top of the championship table.

For three and a half days, Sussex fought well against a side with championship aspirations even if Gloucestershire were not quite at their best. In the end though, a pitch which allowed the spinners slow turn, enabled them to maintain their chal-

After Gloucestershire had batted on for 45 minutes in the morning, Sussex's final target was 328 in a minimum of 82 overs which, with the two spinners in more or less constant action, became 94. To score at almost three and a half runs an over for this length of time with a highly suspect batting side was never a realistic option for Sussex unless they were given a

In the second over of the innings, Rajesh Rao played forward to Jonathan Lewis and was picked up by Ball at first slip. Peirce and Taylor then embarked upon another rebuilding exercise - they had put on 135 in the first innings - and added 107 for the second wicket now. 4 for 35 in 29.

Both drove handsomely against the seam bowlers and defended with reasonable certainty when the spinners came

on. Then, as they got their measure, they also began to drive and play off their legs with a pleasing fluency. But the spinners persevered with four fielders round the bat and it was Ball who made the all important first breakthrough.

Peirce had just reached his second 50 of the match when he went back to force Ball who turned an off-break away from the left-hander a little more than Peirce had anticipated tershire collected from the and he was caught low at second slip by Bobby Dawson. Taylor's 50 came next but

soon afterwards he went on to the back foot and turned the ball straight to short leg. This opened the floodgates

for within minutes the Newell brothers had gone. Mark pushed forward to Davis and was caught at silly point and foot he was held at short leg off bat and pad. The tea interval hardly

provided respite for Sussex for almost at once after the restart Paul Jarvis stretched forward to one from Ball which may have gone on with his arm and was caught low down at slip by Mark Alleyne. Five runs later Amer Khan went forward to Davis and was caught off bat and pad.

Next to go was Justin Bates who was low to Ball playing a shot which was a mixture of a pull and a sweep and Alex Edwards and Mark Robinson were out just before the start of the final hour. Ball finished with 5 for 66 in 30 overs and Davis



A phalanx of deck chairs awaits the arrival of spectators at Hove yesterday as Gloucestershire took on Sussex and emerged victorious

Photograph: David Ashdown

James impresses as Glamorgan faltei

JON CULLEY

reports from Worcester Worcestershire 476-9 dec Glamorgan 398 and 319

Worcestershire win by 54 runs

The Glamorgan opener, Stephen James, whose prolific form this season has been noted by the England selectors, enhanced his winter prospects with his fifth Championship century here yesterday but could not lead the Welshmen to the win they needed to return to the top of the table.

mately tipped the other way, Worcestershire carving through the lower orders even with no specialist spinner to clinch a victory that lifts them into title contention in fourth place.

Watched by chairman of selectors, David Graveney, James may have clinched a place on tour to the West Indies after his fourhour 130, the bedrock of Glamorgan's challenge. However, in chasing 374 to win, James needed the support of at least one more innings of substance, but none was forthcoming.

A fascinating finish was achieved without the need for when Stuart Lampitt brilliantly

Centuries from Giles White

and John Stephenson, their first in the Championship this season,

denied Yorkshire victory at

Portsmouth yesterday after Hampshire had followed on.

Hampshire began the final day on 173 for 3 in their second

innings, still needing another 47 to make Yorkshire bat again. But

White, whose previous top score

for Hampshire in 44 matches

was a modest 73, led the resis-

At the fall of the eighth wick-

et at 410, Hampshire were only

190 in front and there were still

42 overs left, but Yorkshire's

tance with a career-best 145.

ROUND-UP

Indeed, the balance ulti- a declaration after Worcestershire, 263 for 7 overnight, lost their last three wickets for 32 in 13 overs, the England off-spin-ner Robert Croft finishing with 4 for 98 from 42 overs.

With a minimum of 81 overs available, Glamorgan made the perfect start, James and partner Hugh Morris managing both to weather the new ball and keep in touch with the clock in an impeccable opening stand, putting on 115 in 30 overs before the latter was rum out by Vikram Solanki's superb throw from extra cover as James chanced a single.

Yorkshire hit blockade

stand of 54 in 21 overs between Shaun Udal and Simon Ren-

Nottinghamshire squandered

a golden opportunity to claim

their fourth Championship vic-

tory of the season and, in the

end, they had to survive the final

over to avoid defeat against

ing his third Championship

century of the season, Notting-

on the way to maximum points

as they chased a victory target

of 320 in a minimum of 76 overs.

However, the departures of the

captain, Paul Johnson, and

Dowman in quick succession sparked a dramatic slide that

hopes finally disappeared in a ended with the wicketkeeper,

hamshire appeared to be well

With Mathew Dowman scor-

Somerset at Trent Bridge.

caught Adrian Dale at slip, giving Tom Moody, the Worcestershire captain, a wicket from the first ball of a lengthy spell of respectable off-break bowling that suffered only when Wagar Younis went after him in some

desperation towards the close. The biggest blow, however, was inflicted by the seamer Gavin Haynes, who removed Mike Powell and, crucially, Matthew Maynard from consecutive deliveries, the Glamorgan captain perversely following his sublime unbeaten 161 with a first-ball duck. James, dropped behind the

Wayne Noon, having to keep out

Mushtaq Ahmed in the final over to secure a draw.

The Pakistan leg-spinner had

been chiefly responsible for that dramatic slide with a burst

of three for eight in 23 balls that

had Nottinghamshire wobbling

after their comfortable progress

in the afternoon session.

Nottinghamshire are to en-

ter the bidding for Shane Warne

and will meet with the Anstralian

leg-spinner's manager, Austin

Robertson, Lancashire and Sus-

sex are also interested Warne

Nottinghamshire's cricket com-

mittee chairman, Stuart Foster,

said: "Warne is our targeted

player and we hope to meet him in the next 10 days, but we're in

the hands of his agent."

disciplinary hearing in Bristol to-day before rejoining the England squad, chipping in, 78 runs were added for the fifth wicket, reviving Glamorgan's hopes. But the odds shifted again bowling prospect, Maneer the last two wickets in seven balls.

when Croft drove the pace

fore tea, completed his century

17th four. With Croft, who must

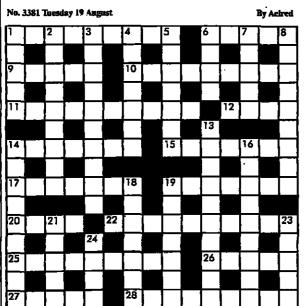
attend an English Cricket Board

painst the same bowler with his

Mirza, to mid-on for 39. Then. with 106 still needed, Glamorgan almost immediately lost Gary Butcher to a return catch followed by James, who holed out to deep backward square. Younis ran out of partners as

Adrian Shaw was run out by Lampitt's fine throw befere 19year-old Mirza, playing in only his third Championship match, took

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



See this variety of bean go

Cube contains energy to 22 Oil company engaged one remove winter obscurity (2-

ed here (5) 10 Speak about making car

11 Cries out with anger after getting to desk (10) 12 Some hopes of Latin Amer- 1

ican purchasers (4) 14 Receiver holds first-rate 3 English tree, it's on headporcelain (7) 15 Conductor makes old Chi- 4

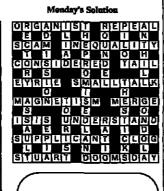
nese leader take disturbed course? (7)

19 Awfully guilty holding right 7 Picture that is seen in magkind of worship (7) with eel cooked in apart- 20 Poor guy carries line that's

worker agreed by both sides 9 Mark of, say, fish is reflect- 25 I'm faultless but tense? (9) shaped (5)

> came 24 hours ago (9) DOWN Fellow's clever story (5) Notice speech habit (9)

Outbust is so French, and Be foolish and act on note



azine? Quite the opposite Yet to change old record in my understanding of words

13 Condition to shatter characters all right (10) 26 Circle's not valid when egg- 14 Preferred rosette to cover crumpled tie (9) nut tight, it provides safety 27 See about, say, a poem (5) 16 Informed about her awful-(9) 28 OK to liberal trade with Yen ly quiet entrance (9) European in extraordinary

vanity shows simple quality (7) Sheds no fat getting up drunk (4-3) land one could testify (10) 21 A falling away in Latin part Line which is followed by of church (5) any wanting to be supple (7) 23 Silly person is showing agreement? (5)
24 Bess's man loses head in

wild party (4)

Everton interested in Saunders Footbail ALAN NIXON

Howard Kendall is considering bringing Dean Saunders back to Merseyside from Nottingham Forest in time for the weekend. The Everton manager has

asked Forest about Saunders' price and availability and is favourite to join the Toffees in considering a £600,000 bid for the next few days. Saunders the former Liverpool striker, who is on the fringe of Dave Bassett's side. Saunders, 33, would be delighted to return to the Premier League and the move could go ahead in time for a debut against West Ham on Saturday.

Kendall has run out of targets, including Manchester City's Uwe Rösler, and needs a new partner for Duncan Ferguson in the hopes of avoiding a second successive home defeat. Everton had even considered a move for Ian Rush before he joined Newcastle,

but Saunders is emerging as the favourite to join the Toffees in turned down Everton in favour of Liverpool seven seasons ago. Tottenham Hotspur are interested in signing Peter Nowak. Poland's playmaker, from 1860 Munich, according to reports in the German sports magazine Kicker.

> Back issues available from Historic Newspa Registrated as a surrepaper with the Print Office

The magazine said Nowak had agreed personal terms with the London club and hoped he could move on a free transfer. However, the Munich club's president, Karl-Heinz Wildmoser, has said the club wants \$2m (£1.25m) for the player. who is under contract to the club until 1999.

"If Tottenham want to come and haggle, the matter is finished straight away. In that case, we'll insist on the [current] contract," Kicker quoted Wildmoser as saying. The was no comment yester-

day from Spurs on their apparent pursuit of the 33-year-old. More football, page 23 © Published by Newspaper Publishing PLC, ! Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St

DICKIE BIRD

AND IT WON'T COST YOU A PENNY Today is Finals Day in the national

Under-15 Club Cricket Championships. And, for the thirteenth consecutive season, the competition is sponsored by Sun Life of Canada.

WORLD CLASS

This year the final, at Hampshire C.C's May's Bounty ground at Basingstoke, will be umpired by the legendary Dickie Bird. Not only will there be fascinating cricket, but also the adjudication of a world-class umpire.

AN UNSWERVING COMMITMENT Sun Life of Canada is committed to the continued development of the game at grassroots level. The company's sponsorship involves assisting the young stars of

tomorrow in growing their cricketing development; just as its financial expertise can contribute to your financial development.



NURTURING TALENT Finals Day, which features both semi-finals and the final, is the culmination of a tournamentinvolving some 1400 clubs nationwide, as the semi-finalists reflect perfectly; St Just from Cornwall play ilkley, and Horsham play Wolverhampton. In recent years the competition has gained a justiflable reputation for nurturing English

cricket's finest young talent -. Including such stars as Nasser Hussain, Angus Fraser, Mark Ramprakash, Adam and Ben Hollioake and Graham Thome.

ADMISSION FREE SEMI-FINALS 10.30am FINALS 2.15pm asingstoke and North Hants C.C. May's Bounty, Basingstoke,



